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JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 368 | SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1913. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page 907.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

"BULLETS" PRIZES AGAIN INCREASED!

SEE PAGE 918.

IN ADDITION TO 20
£5 NOTES
AS
HOLIDAY PRIZES

ARE YOU FAIR TO YOURSELF IN SAVING 1/6 ?

You are feeling old, and you begin to look it, with those grey and faded hairs, always so conspicuous. Write at once to the great hair specialists, J. Pepper & Co., Ltd., Bedford Laboratories, London, S.E., for a bottle of their world-famed

Lockyer's Hair Restorer 1/6

sent privately packed and post free. This preparation gives health to the hair and restores the natural colour. It cleanses the scalp: is the most perfect hairdressing. Will enable you to *look* as you did 10 years ago, and you will *feel* years younger.

WHAT WOULD YOU GIVE FOR A PERFECT SKIN?

3d. too much?

YOU SUFFER FROM SKIN SICKNESS IN THE FORM OF SKIN SHINE, PIMPLES, SPOTS, AND REDNESS. THEY MAY LEAD TO ECZEMA, WITH ITS TERRIBLE BURNING AND ITCHING.

Many perfect skins to-day are traced to a single sample.

Hasten and save your skin and health by writing at once to those famous London chemists, John Pepper & Co., Limited, Bedford Laboratories, London, S.E., for one of their free packets of samples, containing Sulpholine Soap, Sulpholine Skin Powder, and Sulphur Pearls, and enclose 3d. stamps for postage, or if you require a full list one shilling will bring per return of post a full size 1s. bottle of Sulpholine Lotion, together with all the above samples. These wonderful "Sulpholine" preparations, as the word implies, are obtained from specially prepared sulphur, which by its depurative action, quickly clears the skin from Spots, Blotches and Blackheads, as, indeed, all facial blemishes emanating from surface Blood, and in the shortest time restores the skin to youthful clearness. Should your complaint already be developed in the form of Eczema or other disfiguring disease, write to us with a few details, telling us how long you have been troubled; does it irritate, does it burn? We will then write you, free of charge, telling you how we have cured thousands.

SEE PAGE 911.

CRICKET COMPETITION. NO. 3.

SEE PAGE 911.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches starting on June 23 to July 3.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

MATCHES.

Middlesex	v.	Notts.
Gloucester	v.	Kent.
Yorkshire	v.	Warwickshire.
Sussex	v.	Hampshire.
Leveson-Gower's XI.	v.	Cambridge Univ.
Surrey	v.	Lancashire.
Hampshire	v.	Kent.
Sussex	v.	Notts.
Northamptonshire	v.	Yorkshire.
Worcestershire	v.	Somerset.
Essex	v.	Middlesex.
Derbyshire	v.	Leicestershire.
Notts	v.	Kent.
Surrey	v.	Sussex.
Warwickshire	v.	Lancashire.
Gloucestershire	v.	Northamptonshire.
Essex	v.	Sussex.
Worcestershire	v.	Middlesex.
Kent	v.	Surrey.
Warwickshire	v.	Gloucestershire.
Lancashire	v.	Northamptonshire.

I enter JOHN BULL Cricket Competition in accordance with the rules announced on page 911 and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

Cut here

Competitor's Guide.

As a guide to competitors we give below **LAST YEAR'S RESULTS** of the matches given on the attached coupon.

Middlesex won by 5 wickets.
Kent won by nine wickets.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Surrey won by three wickets.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Kent won by an innings and 76 runs.
Match drawn.
No Match.

As the competition is one of skill, you are also advised to study the cricket columns and reports given in the daily papers.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XIV. No. 368. Week ending Saturday, June 21st, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All FINANCIAL, INSURANCE *and* SPORTING *enquiries should be addressed to the* CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C. *All other communications should be addressed to* 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for JUNE 14th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number 017,360.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Honour the Woman.

Verily the world must have grown callous if it sees no pathos, no romance, no heroism in the death of Miss Davison, who—all misguided if you will—gave her life to what she believed to be the cause of her sisters. "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church"—and whatever be your view of the suffrage problem, be assured that this tragedy has, for good or ill, made victory secure. And before you sneer and scoff at the dead woman's deed, just ask yourself for what cause in the world would *you* have risked it. Hats off, gentlemen, and a kindly thought for the suffragette martyr.

Getting On.

Congratulations to the *Express* on its new feature—the daily article by Mr. Arnold White. Stripped of their Unionist bias, Mr. White's views strike a new and healthy note in regard to the events of the day, and, like Mr. Filson Young's daily soliloquy in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, should do much in the way of public education. Here is just one quotation: "The British Empire is a large business, and its managing directors must either adhere to the elementary principles of efficient administration, or efficient nations under better management will oust the British and break the empire. . . . The first maxim for the sound administration of an empire, or a fried fish shop, is that everyone employed should be chosen with sole reference to his capacity for the duties he is required to perform." Mr. White must join the League.

"Some Were Taken."

In a recent cartoon, our artist depicted Mr. McKenna as a policeman, "running in" a militant suffragette and, pointing to an equally militant Ulsterman, asking Mr. Bull "Shall I take him, too?" And now we have Sir Edward Carson hurling defiance at the Executive and openly challenging the Government to put him under arrest for inciting the populace to arms. The fact that they dare not do so is just one more useful object lesson in the unreality of modern politics—which are nearly all bunkum and make-believe. For any reality there *may* be, you must go outside Parliament.

One Who Knows!

The Chief Secretary for Ireland has been interrogated with reference to recent seizures of arms and ammunition in Ulster. His first questioner was Mr. Joseph King, who contrived to extract a good deal of shallow-pated humour from a situation bristling with difficulty and danger. The Chief Secretary's replies were couched in the coldest of official language, and there was no attempt to minimise the seriousness of recent events in the Northern province. We regret to note that they were punctuated with "Nationalist laughter." But this mirth evoked no sympathetic response from the Chief Secretary, once the merriest of men. He knows!

"An Improper Play."

We shall not be surprised if all London is flocking to Mr. Hemmerde's new play at the Savoy, "The Cardinal's Romance"; for, almost with one accord, the critics have declared it to be "improper"—all because the Cardinal—or, rather, the man who becomes a priest and cardinal—is *supposed* to have married his own sister! The play may be a little obscure in plot, and here and there a bit crude in construction, but, however "improper," it should be saved by the wonderful force of its presentation by a company which comprises the artistic ease of Fred Kerr, the masterful manliness of Norman Trevor, the surpassing beauty of Enid Bell, and the bewitching archness of Peggy Fitzmaurice. At any rate, if you want a good thrill, go and see the play—but do not forget your handkerchief.

Whitewash and Tar.

Elsewhere we have our say about Marconis—which will ever be a blessed word with us, connoting one of the final nails in the coffin of the Party system. Our cartoonist correctly sums up the situation created by the Report of the bogus Committee of Inquiry—a bucket of whitewash and a bucket of tar. We note, however, that Sir Albert Spicer was in favour of mixing the two—and we take back much that we recently said about him.

Off With His Head!

Some of our readers are inveterate jokers. Here is one suggesting that a recent incident in the House of Commons was merely designed to cover Mr. Asquith with the "white flour of a blameless life"!

Our Third Great Cricket Contest Closes this week. Final Coupon.

Feathered Fun.

Parliament is daily growing more deadly dull, and jaded members are hard put to it to devise stimulating recreations. Mr. Percy Illingworth, whose Nonconformist leanings probably preclude him from more than a tepid interest in equine sport, recently conceived the idea of a pigeon race, and mooted the matter to Mr. Handel Booth. The pride of Pontefract eagerly embraced the proposal. Details were speedily arranged, and in due course the selected birds were despatched from Palace Yard amid the plaudits of an admiring crowd, and under the direct ægis of Mr. Speaker. In the result Pontefract beat Shipley hollow, the feathered pets of the Chief Whip being completely out-classed. We are able to deny the rumour that this brilliant success of the Member for Pontefract is to be rewarded with either a baronetcy or a seat in the Whips' Room. We gather that the event was devoid of political significance; but it has its moral. Poor Mr. Illingworth *can't* do right just now!

Same Old Game.

In July, 1912, Arngaard Karl Graves was, at Edinburgh, sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment as a German spy. The *New York American* now informs us that four months after his conviction Graves was released by the British Government in order that our own Secret Service might enjoy the benefit of his proven skill in the work of espionage. The story is a sufficiently startling one, and it is told with a wealth of circumstantial detail. If only half of it is true, the circumstances furnish an amusing and complete refutation of the widespread notion that political espionage is a wicked foreign device which has no place in British schemes of warlike preparation. The air of self-righteous horror assumed by judges and counsel whenever a foreign spy is in the dock is a sight to provoke the mirth of honest men. Some day, perhaps, we shall come to realise that such crocodile tears are as ridiculous as they are unconvincing.

Liberty or License.

A King's Bench jury has decreed that members of the Women's Social and Political Union who joined prior to March 1st, 1912, shall pay for the window-breaking depredations of their more aggressive colleagues. The decision will do much to sap the vigour of the militant campaign. Meanwhile, the printing and circulation of the *Suffragette* continues unchecked, and herein lies a pretty problem for political purists and constitutional pedants. How to reconcile the oft-conflicting claims of liberty and order, is a riddle which has perplexed wiser heads than any which now grace the conclaves of Cabinets. Freedom of the Press is among the most vital of our liberties, but there are, doubtless, circumstances in which the censorship, and even the suppression of a provocative organ, may be the right, and even the duty, of the State. In such circumstances, it is the duty of the citizen to support the Government, even at the sacrifice of some small measure of cherished constitutional theory.

"Ring Off, Please!"

A Wolverhampton resident, who lives within twenty yards of a telephone post and a mile and a-half from the exchange, wishing to become a subscriber, has been notified by the Contract Department of the Birmingham Post Office, that "the application cannot at present be accepted," but is "having every attention and you shall be communicated with further." It is all right. Everything comes to him who waits. The Postmaster-General is probably considering whether it would not be worth while to fit him up with a Marconi Wireless.

Churls and the Girl.

In connection with the schools under the control of the Kent Education Committee, certain prizes, called the Hopson Prizes, are awarded for regular attendance. A pupil in a school at Sheppey had made every attendance except one; then as she was going to school she noticed that a little child had fallen into a pond and was fast drowning. She immediately waded into the water and saved the child, but water being wet, she had to return home to dry her clothes; having to dry her clothes she could not attend school, and not having attended school this mean-minded set of men and women, acting as a County Education Committee, refused the girl the prize. And not only so, they had not, we will not say the generosity, but they had not sufficient sense of the appropriate, of the right thing to do, even to award her a special prize—the pick of all the prizes—a prize with inspiration about it and in it—recording that she had missed a Hopson Prize by one attendance through her brave conduct in saving from drowning a little child. She shall certainly have a prize bearing some such inscription if a member of the Sheppey School Attendance Committee will send us her name and address.

Auditing at Ripon.

A Mr. W. E. Clarke has been putting the cat among the pigeons at Ripon. Notwithstanding that the city accounts have been "audited and found correct," he points out in correspondence with the Clerk of the Council that he has been paid an account he had with the Council twice over, and actually holds £7 12s. 1d. of the ratepayers' money. The Councillors have been so surprised that they have had to have a four or five column debate on the subject. We don't wonder. It is a miracle, and Mr. Matthew Arnold always held that miracles do not happen. Mr. Clarke has probably heard of ratepayers being asked to pay the same rate twice over, but this being the first time he, or any other ratepayer in Ripon, has been paid twice over for the same thing, he was probably anxious to settle the question whether the millennium had arrived.

A Juryman's Protest.

Mr. W. Duffet, a Petersfield tradesman, will doubtless note the recommendations of the Jury Commission under Lord Mersey, with satisfaction. A little while ago this gentleman protested at the conclusion of a local inquest against the same set of jurymen being called on to serve in all sorts of cases over and over again. Recently, he said, he was on a jury for two days in a County Court case "concerning a matter from Liphook, for which he and his fellow jurymen received sixpence each day, which he considered was an insult to Englishmen." Which undoubtedly it is.

The Citizen's Privilege.

With tongues in their cheeks, judges have a way of exalting the juryman's office as one of the highest privileges of the citizen. To listen to some of them, one would imagine that the time a man leaves his happy home or his business to sit in Court as a common juryman, for next to nothing, to decide a dispute in which he is as remotely interested or concerned as he is in the back half of the moon, is the proudest moment of his life. Of course, it is all unadulterated bunkum. If the same judges, while they were busy barristers, had been liable to and called for jury service, they would have raised a din and kept it going until they were either excused service or paid a tremendous retaining fee and a mammoth refresher for their job. The day perhaps is not now far distant when all men who leave their business to serve as jurors will be treated on business lines.

"Bullets" Prizes AGAIN Increased! See page 918.

A Gross Impertinence.

Mr. Thomas White, a member of the Liverpool Board of Guardians, has a right to choose his own friends, but he will do well in future to keep them away from the Union premises. He recently visited the Workhouse Infirmary after nine o'clock in the evening in company with another Guardian and two friends. They were shown over the place by two nurses, whereupon one of the strangers seized her by the waist and forcibly kissed her. The girl strongly resented this affront, and the visitor's conduct was subsequently reported to the Board by the Superintendent Nurse. After some discussion, the Guardians determined to take no action in the matter, but to allow the offender an opportunity of apologising for his impudent assault. We trust the required apology will be instantly tendered, and it will then be for the young lady to decide whether she shall accept it as a sufficient solatium. Meanwhile, the porters of the Infirmary should be instructed to refuse admission to Mr. White's friends, except on proof of respectability.

Liberian Exports.

They appear to be exporting a curious class of goods from Liberia to the Gold Coast, judging by a printed circular which has reached us. "Notice, Notice," it says. "To all whom it may concerned. We the Undersigned beg to notify the Public in General that we can supply any quantity of boys for the coast, and to ensure quick despatch of orders, T. Layfayette Crusoe and Co,, Ltd., of Front, Randall Streets, Monrovia (Liberia), respectfully invite the attention of their patrons to the following terms. All orders for boys must be accompanied by cash to cover the full amount. . . . Orders for 50 boys and over receive a special discount of 48 cents in the (£), and we respectfully suggest that patrons join with friends and send their orders together, to secure the amount." We are rather curious about the wholesale and retail trade in these goods, and the Colonial Office will therefore no doubt be good enough to enlighten us with regard to them. Under what conditions are imported Liberian niggers employed in the mines of the Gold Coast Colony?

An Unjust Ukase.

There is a widespread resentment in Scarborough at the recent action of the Town Council in withholding pleasure-boat licences from youths under 21 years of age. Hitherto scores of lads have earned an honest living by plying their boats for hire, and the arbitary fiat of the Council must inevitably work cruel hardship to the poorer class of ratepayers, by depriving their sons of the means of livelihood. It is further urged that the newly-devised restriction will seriously hamper the fishing industry by depriving smack-owners of apprentices versed in the management of smaller craft. These pregnant considerations are, however, naught to the Scarborough Council, which has apparently been led by the nose by a knot of meddling faddists.

Dunfermline's Fire Squirt.

Now that they have had what the reporter calls an "awe-inspiring" £70,000 fire, the Dunfermline Corporation will probably decide to purchase some up-to-date fire appliances. The failure of the brigades to put out the conflagration at Messrs. Caldwell's paper mills amounts to gross and disgraceful negligence on the part of the Corporation, whose fire appliances were as feeble as garden squirts. They were also minus a single horse to carry them to Inverkeithing, the scene of the blazes, where there was only one hydrant, and a man had to "return to Dunfermline for the hand pump." What the Corporation evidently wants is a stomach pump.

A Fountain Pen for every Reader.

Canadian Cruelty.

Two years ago a man with a wife and three grown-up children sold up his little home and emigrated to "Glorious Canada." After a time the father became ill. The doctor diagnosed the disease as tuberculosis, notified it to the authorities, and the patient was deported to this country. His wife and family, of course, had to remain behind. He arrived back in his native town, broken in more senses than one. He was not "an insured person," and was only saved from the workhouse infirmary by the charitable act of a lady who knew him prior to his seeking his fortune. Next year (if he lives so long) he will celebrate his silver wedding 3,000 miles from his wife and family! Prospective emigrants should bear this in mind—if they develop any contagious disease before being in Canada two years, they will be turned out of the country. Why don't the Canadian Government provide a lethal chamber, instead of deporting these poor wretches?

What is Wrong?

Amid general laments over our falling birth-rate, the wild cry of a Leyton mother strikes a shrill, questioning note. The woman had had fifteen children, and in a moment of despair, born of domestic and pecuniary worry, she had attempted suicide. "I am so worried with the children," she pleaded to the police inspector, "that unless you keep me here. I shall kill myself. I feel I must do it." Who knows what sordid tragedy of woe and want lay behind this frantic outburst? It is said that the family was a respectable one, and much moral heroism may have gone to make the simple tribute true. Few will contend that a "declining birth-rate" in that family would have been an unmixed evil, however deplorable the phenomenon may be on national and imperial grounds. With all our grandiose schemes of social reform there is somewhere something hopelessly muddled and wrong. Where is the Bishop of London?

Search Me!

The Vicar of Holy Trinity, Reading, has stated that persons found in his church in possession of confetti at weddings will henceforth be refused admission unless they deposit half-a-crown with the verger, to be forfeited if they throw the confetti in the church. It is an ingenious notion on the part of the reverend gentleman; but what we are anxious to know is, who is to do the searching of suspected persons—the Vicar or the verger? And where is the embarrassing operation to be performed—in public in the porch or churchyard, or in some private place provided for the purpose? If the Vicar is in need of assistance, we hereby volunteer to instruct our office boy to proceed to Reading at a moment's notice to conduct a thorough search of any bevy of beauteous bridesmaids who may be suspected of carrying concealed confetti somewhere about their persons. Telephone or wire.

A Holocaust of Infants.

The fact that the Flannelette Bill is through its Second Reading in the House of Commons is proof that Party politics do take a rest sometimes, though there is just as much or just as little reason why flannelette should start all the Party politicians fighting like cats and dogs as anything else which becomes the subject of legislation. At least 1,000 deaths a year are directly due to this highly inflammable material, and when the Bill passes, anybody selling it as "fireproof," as it so often is sold, will be liable to penalties. Flannelette, as a fabric for children's clothing especially, is a most dangerous material, so dangerous that it might almost be described as explosive. This Bill will fix the attention of buyers on the risks they run.

See Our Great Offer on page 913.

In Camera at Tottenham.

Whenever Tottenham District Council starts discussing things *in camera*, we usually smell a rat. The Council have again shut the reporters out, and having done the business they hid themselves to do, it turns out that the Clerk applied "for some relaxation from the performances of his duties," and that his application was successful. As it is not revealed why this somewhat novel application should be granted, perhaps somebody will inform us. If the Clerk's office boy or any other subordinate servant of the Council were to apply for some relaxation, more relaxation than asked for would probably be granted. We do not attach much credence to the rumour that beads of perspiration as large as a shilling, and some as large as eighteen-pence, have been noticed rolling off the forehead of Mr. Crowne, but if it be true, there should be a medical certificate explaining the reason thereof. The distressing spectacle can hardly be due to his excessive labours as Clerk.

Seeing is Believing.

At the Highgate Police Court a woman charged with assault made counter-allegations of violence against the complainant. Both women were eloquent upon the nature and extent of their injuries, and the prisoner essayed to remove her blouse in order to furnish the magistrate with ocular proof of her assertions. Her design was frustrated by the prison matron, and the Bench was thus deprived of much-needed assistance in adjudicating upon an extremely difficult case. The common decencies must of course be preserved even in a police court, but if a woman swears that she has a bruise on her back and is bursting to show it, it is surely a little hard that she should be denied so signal an opportunity of vindicating her veracity.

Kingston and the Unco Guid.

The presumption of some of the religious sects is becoming almost as irritating as it is amusing. Recently certain religious bodies approached the Kingston Corporation with the request that all betting news should be blacked out in the newspapers at the Free Public Library. Fortunately, the Corporation realised their responsibility towards the public, and rejected the impudent demand. What with the slave-legislation of a bureaucratic Government, and the attempts of the unco guid to impose their extreme opinions on the public, England is rapidly becoming one of the least desirable countries to live in. Let us have more Business, and less Bureaucracy, Bigotry and Balderdash.

National Lifeboat Institution.

We note that this Society is again on the cadge. About fifty copies of a recent local appeal have been sent to us by readers from Bristol, who state that they do not intend to subscribe again until we give the signal "all right." In spite of their most gracious Majesties' patronage of this Institution, we cannot advise our readers to contribute towards its funds. The working expenses are altogether too extravagant, and the remuneration to the men who risk their lives—the real backbone of the Institution—far too small.

A Plebiscite at Newbury.

They have been having a poll of the burgesses at Newbury in regard to a Public Hall scheme. "Those not voting will be reckoned as being not opposed to the Council's scheme," stated the Mayor in the advertised notices. His worship is apparently of the same view as the late Paulus Kruger, of pious memory. "I don't much mind giving 'em votes," he is alleged to have said during the Uitlander agitation, "as long as they don't mind letting me count 'em."

Prospects for York Publicans.

The Methodistical gentry who are behind the Chief Constable of York in his trading prosecutions, evidently intend to keep him busy. Technically, a publican who sells tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, or matches on a Sunday is liable to prosecution under the Act of Charles II. "Do I understand you are going to take out summonses against all the publicans in York?" the solicitor for the defence asked the Chief Constable in the course of his prosecution, among others, of one Peter Flynn, for selling a ha'porth of sweets on a good Sunday afternoon. "Yes," replied the Chief Constable, "if I can catch them." Evidently the York publicans are in for a pious time of it, and we warn them that if one Sunday a tottering old woman with a red nose, white hair, and blue tie-ups enters any of their premises and asks for a drop o' gin and a packet of Woodbines, she will be a policeman, in which case they must be prepared to meet their fate; five shilings and costs, and no mercy.

A Deluded Ex-Mayor.

Whatever else is clear in the acrimonious controversy between the ex-Mayor of Winchester, Mr. Holdaway, and the present Mayor, Mr. Elkington, on behalf of the City Council, this is clear. Some sort of a promise that if he took the office of Mayor a grant would be voted towards his expenses was made to him, and he would not have taken office except for that promise. Alderman Dyer, who approached Mr. Holdaway for the Council, says the promise of the grant was conditional on special expense not publicly provided for. Mr. Holdaway says it was that of an unconditional grant as made to other mayors. There has evidently been a misunderstanding on one side or the other, and the ex-Mayor feels he has a grievance. For the future it should be distinctly understood that, whatever a man's ability and whatever his public service to the citizens, he cannot be Mayor of Winchester unless he can afford to pay several hundred pounds for the honour.

Beer v. Acid Drops.

We take off our hat to Archdeacon Sinclair for a bold, manly speech at the annual meeting of the True Temperance Association. "The majority of mankind has too much common sense to believe in the poisonous character of a good glass of beer, or the damnable seduction of a delicate wine," he said. "The elements of both were provided by Providence, and their reasonable enjoyment, so far from being condemned by the Word of God, was enjoined by precept and example." Contrast this masculine breeziness with the effeminate piffle of the Bishop of Stepney, at a temperance meeting in Poplar—to drink to cure a thirst is a "superstition," and although barley water is a good thing, the finest of all is an acid drop!

Goody Goody Eton.

A notice at Eton College states that picture theatres are "out of bounds"; and that boys are not to ride in motor vehicles on Sundays—petrol evidently being considered an evil spirit—on the Sabbath. It is about time the authorities at Eton sold their stock of cant, and procured a supply of common sense to remedy the real evils in their very midst.

They're All Coming Round.

The *North Star*, a Tory paper, is the latest. Referring to a certain pamphlet, our contemporary remarks that "it cannot fail to impress once again upon reasonable thinking and progressive citizens the need there is for a Business Government." A *Star* of hope!

Let "Bullets" Pay for Your Holidays. More £5 Notes Offered.

The Naked Truth.

Under the Party system of spoils and rewards, titular honours awarded by the Government of the day are fast coming to be regarded with undisguised contempt, even in close political circles. Our plain-spoken contemporary, *Reynolds's Newspaper*, comments somewhat sadly upon the recent Birthday List, and declares that the recipients of honours "are all men who have rendered distinguished public service of some kind, in promoting the policy of the Government of the day, or in the Civil Service, or in some other capacity." Observe the order of merit! Tame Party hacks first and the rest nowhere!

Not a Record.

In a flattering notice of Mr. J. D. Sowerby, Chief Constable of Plymouth, the *Western Independent* mentions that in the course of his career he has attended no fewer than 5,000 fires. It is only fair to the Right Honourable John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, to say that this is not a record. For many years he has attended all the fires which have occurred in London, and directed the suppression of same; number to this date 143,791 and a false alarm, all counted.

Bishop Weldon and Sunday Closing.

In his address to the Manchester and Salford Sunday Closing Association, Bishop Weldon asked why public-houses should be open on Sunday. There are several answers, of course; one of them being—on account of so many dry sermons being preached in churches.

Cui Bono?

A Hammersmith man tells us that, though he has been a householder for twenty-six years, he has been so disgusted with the Party game that he has not voted more than twice in his life. It would have made no difference if he had!

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

[The consumption of kippers and bloaters in the tea-room of the House of Commons is no longer to be permitted.]

When I surveyed my country's awful state,
And viewed the wrongs and evils that persist,
I once determined that to legislate
For her regeneration I'd assist;
In other words, I swore that I would be—
If I could get elected—an M.P.

I studied elocution, and rehearsed
Soul-stirring speeches to my mirror'd face,
Till, feeling well equipped, I gently nursed
Th' electors of what seemed a likely place,
Subscribing to a hundred clubs or more,
Till of election I felt pretty sure.

In dreams I caught the Speaker's eye, and fired
With indignation at some social wrong,
Heard myself holding forth as one inspired,
While fellow-members to the Chamber throng,
Leaving their chess, their book, their social cup
Because the word goes round that Dash is up!

But now a Parliamentary career
I have abandoned, though it gives me pain,
Because at Westminster, I greatly fear,
My brilliant efforts would be all in vain!
The House of Commons were no place for me
If kippered herrings can't be had for tea!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.]

For stating in its announcement of some al-fresco *entertainments: "Prices of admission by invitation: Gentlemen 6d. each.* LADIES *and children free, if accompanied by parents. There will, however, be* A RAFFLE FOR THEM, *at 3d. a ticket,"*

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In Camera at Tottenham.

Whenever Tottenham District Council starts discussing things *in camera*, we usually smell a rat. The Council have again shut the reporters out, and having done the business they hid themselves to do, it turns out that the Clerk applied "for some relaxation from the performances of his duties," and that his application was successful. As it is not revealed why this somewhat novel application should be granted, perhaps somebody will inform us. If the Clerk's office boy or any other subordinate servant of the Council were to apply for some relaxation, more relaxation than asked for would probably be granted. We do not attach much credence to the rumour that beads of perspiration as large as a shilling, and some as large as eighteen-pence, have been noticed rolling off the forehead of Mr. Crowne, but if it be true, there should be a medical certificate explaining the reason thereof. The distressing spectacle can hardly be due to his excessive labours as Clerk.

Seeing is Believing.

At the Highgate Police Court a woman charged with assault made counter-allegations of violence against the complainant. Both women were eloquent upon the nature and extent of their injuries, and the prisoner essayed to remove her blouse in order to furnish the magistrate with ocular proof of her assertions. Her design was frustrated by the prison matron, and the Bench was thus deprived of much-needed assistance in adjudicating upon an extremely difficult case. The common decencies must of course be preserved even in a police court, but if a woman swears that she has a bruise on her back and is bursting to show it, it is surely a little hard that she should be denied so signal an opportunity of vindicating her veracity.

Kingston and the Unco Guid.

The presumption of some of the religious sects is becoming almost as irritating as it is amusing. Recently certain religious bodies approached the Kingston Corporation with the request that all betting news should be blacked out in the newspapers at the Free Public Library. Fortunately, the Corporation realised their responsibility towards the public, and rejected the impudent demand. What with the slave-legislation of a bureaucratic Government, and the attempts of the unco guid to impose their extreme opinions on the public, England is rapidly becoming one of the least desirable countries to live in. Let us have more Business, and less Bureaucracy, Bigotry and Balderdash.

National Lifeboat Institution.

We note that this Society is again on the cadge. About fifty copies of a recent local appeal have been sent to us by readers from Bristol, who state that they do not intend to subscribe again until we give the signal "all right." In spite of their most gracious Majesties' patronage of this Institution, we cannot advise our readers to contribute towards its funds. The working expenses are altogether too extravagant, and the remuneration to the men who risk their lives—the real backbone of the Institution—far too small.

A Plebiscite at Newbury.

They have been having a poll of the burgesses at Newbury in regard to a Public Hall scheme. "Those not voting will be reckoned as being not opposed to the Council's scheme," stated the Mayor in the advertised notices. His worship is apparently of the same view as the late Paulus Kruger, of pious memory. "I don't much mind giving 'em votes," he is alleged to have said during the Uitlander agitation, "as long as they don't mind letting me count 'em."

Prospects for York Publicans.

The Methodistical gentry who are behind the Chief Constable of York in his trading prosecutions, evidently intend to keep him busy. Technically, a publican who sells tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, or matches on a Sunday is liable to prosecution under the Act of Charles II. "Do I understand you are going to take out summonses against all the publicans in York?" the solicitor for the defence asked the Chief Constable in the course of his prosecution, among others, of one Peter Flynn, for selling a ha'porth of sweets on a good Sunday afternoon. "Yes," replied the Chief Constable, "if I can catch them." Evidently the York publicans are in for a pious time of it, and we warn them that if one Sunday a tottering old woman with a red nose, white hair, and blue tie-ups enters any of their premises and asks for a drop o' gin and a packet of Woodbines, she will be a policeman, in which case they must be prepared to meet their fate; five shilings and costs, and no mercy.

A Deluded Ex-Mayor.

Whatever else is clear in the acrimonious controversy between the ex-Mayor of Winchester, Mr. Holdaway, and the present Mayor, Mr. Elkington, on behalf of the City Council, this is clear. Some sort of a promise that if he took the office of Mayor a grant would be voted towards his expenses was made to him, and he would not have taken office except for that promise. Alderman Dyer, who approached Mr. Holdaway for the Council, says the promise of the grant was conditional on special expense not publicly provided for. Mr. Holdaway says it was that of an unconditional grant as made to other mayors. There has evidently been a misunderstanding on one side or the other, and the ex-Mayor feels he has a grievance. For the future it should be distinctly understood that, whatever a man's ability and whatever his public service to the citizens, he cannot be Mayor of Winchester unless he can afford to pay several hundred pounds for the honour.

Beer v. Acid Drops.

We take off our hat to Archdeacon Sinclair for a bold, manly speech at the annual meeting of the True Temperance Association. "The majority of mankind has too much common sense to believe in the poisonous character of a good glass of beer, or the damnable seduction of a delicate wine," he said. "The elements of both were provided by Providence, and their reasonable enjoyment, so far from being condemned by the Word of God, was enjoined by precept and example." Contrast this masculine breeziness with the effeminate piffle of the Bishop of Stepney, at a temperance meeting in Poplar—to drink to cure a thirst is a "superstition," and although barley water is a good thing, the finest of all is an acid drop!

Goody Goody Eton.

A notice at Eton College states that picture theatres are "out of bounds"; and that boys are not to ride in motor vehicles on Sundays—petrol evidently being considered an evil spirit—on the Sabbath. It is about time the authorities at Eton sold their stock of cant, and procured a supply of common sense to remedy the real evils in their very midst.

They're All Coming Round.

The *North Star*, a Tory paper, is the latest. Referring to a certain pamphlet, our contemporary remarks that "it cannot fail to impress once again upon reasonable thinking and progressive citizens the need there is for a Business Government." A *Star* of hope!

The Naked Truth.

Under the Party system of spoils and rewards, titular honours awarded by the Government of the day are fast coming to be regarded with undisguised contempt, even in close political circles. Our plain-spoken contemporary, *Reynolds's Newspaper*, comments somewhat sadly upon the recent Birthday List, and declares that the recipients of honours "are all men who have rendered distinguished public service of some kind, in promoting the policy of the Government of the day, or in the Civil Service, or in some other capacity." Observe the order of merit! Tame Party hacks first and the rest nowhere!

Not a Record.

In a flattering notice of Mr. J. D. Sowerby, Chief Constable of Plymouth, the *Western Independent* mentions that in the course of his career he has attended no fewer than 5,000 fires. It is only fair to the Right Honourable John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, to say that this is not a record. For many years he has attended all the fires which have occurred in London, and directed the suppression of same; number to this date 143,791 and a false alarm, all counted.

Bishop Weldon and Sunday Closing.

In his address to the Manchester and Salford Sunday Closing Association, Bishop Weldon asked why public-houses should be open on Sunday. There are several answers, of course; one of them being—on account of so many dry sermons being preached in churches.

Cui Bono?

A Hammersmith man tells us that, though he has been a householder for twenty-six years, he has been so disgusted with the Party game that he has not voted more than twice in his life. It would have made no difference if he had!

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

[The consumption of kippers and bloaters in the tea-room of the House of Commons is no longer to be permitted.]

When I surveyed my country's awful state,
And viewed the wrongs and evils that persist,
I once determined that to legislate
For her regeneration I'd assist;
In other words, I swore that I would be—
If I could get elected—an M.P.

I studied elocution, and rehearsed
Soul-stirring speeches to my mirror'd face,
Till, feeling well equipped, I gently nursed
Th' electors of what seemed a likely place,
Subscribing to a hundred clubs or more,
Till of election I felt pretty sure.

In dreams I caught the Speaker's eye, and fired
With indignation at some social wrong,
Heard myself holding forth as one inspired,
While fellow-members to the Chamber throng,
Leaving their chess, their book, their social cup
Because the word goes round that Dash is up!

But now a Parliamentary career
I have abandoned, though it gives me pain,
Because at Westminster, I greatly fear,
My brilliant efforts would be all in vain!
The House of Commons were no place for me
If kippered herrings can't be had for tea!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

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THE MARCONI MARATHON.

TITANIC STRUGGLE OF POLITICAL GLADIATORS——EPOCH-MAKING DEBATE.

Wednesday and Thursday of the present week are to be epoch-marking days. For some time past, our parliamentary institution has been on its trial. Some fanatical people—blinded, no doubt, by prejudice against the Party system—have even predicted its doom. They have prated about the coming of a time when the Government of the country—that is to say, the Business of the nation—will be placed in the hands of a body of Business men.

Now, however, all this has changed. It transpired that the great Party leaders—clever chaps, as they are!—have simply been feinting—preparing for one great demonstration which, timed to the hour, shall set all humanity wondering at their prowess and their power, and shall for another century at least give a quietus to plausible idiots, like ourselves, who have been daring to suggest that "Party" is synonymous with "Humbug."

THE GREAT QUESTION.

For verily a great question has arisen—and mighty gladiators are girding their loins for combat. It is to be a fight to the finish—none of your Carpentier-Bombardier Wells nonsense. Davey George *v.* Boney Law; Bobby Hitchin *v.* Reading Rufus; Pump-Handle Booth *v.* the Banbury Bun, and no end of other star turns—although, unfortunately, the Bogata Bruiser will not appear. Oh, it *is* to be a spectacle—a regular Carnival—a Marathon—a MARCONI MARATHON! And the stakes! Never were there such issues depending on the chance of mortal conflict—on the throw of human dice. For the question before the House, the question before the country, before the Empire, before the world is

Did Godfrey Isaacs pull his brother's leg?

And, until it is answered, the world must stand still. Who cares about the wrongs of Ireland, or the rights of women; the Church in Wales or the Schools in England; the undertaxed foreigner or the overtaxed Briton; the Plural Vote or the Single Tax; the territorial German or the English Territorial; mental deficiency or Ministerial efficiency; pure milk or moral purity; the Lord's Veto or the vetoed Licensee—who, we ask, cares aught for these things, when the great question of the day is

Did Godfrey Isaacs pull his brother's leg?

So clear the ring for the fight—the fight without gloves. Let us steel our nerves, and be prepared for blood.

THE GREAT FIGHT.

And now let us drop metaphor and come down to the prosaic realities of the situation. And we will at once admit that we hail this sham fight as affording the Man in the Street one more object-lesson in the hypocrisy of political life under the Party system. We are to have directors and members of companies which make thousands a year out of Government contracts impeaching the Ministry because some of its members, in their personal capacity, bought a few shares at the suggestion of the Attorney-General's brother—who happened to be connected with an American Company which in a remote way was connected with an English Company with which the Government had entered into a provisional contract upon terms better than any other concern could offer! We are to have people whose relatives have for years been drawing pensions from the public exchequer, without any shadow of moral justification, prattling about the purity of public life! And all because they are, at the moment, the Outs, and want to be the Ins! On the other hand, we are to have Ministers, instead of telling their accusers to go to Jericho; instead of telling them that so long as the transactions are free from corruption, they claim the right—and mean to exercise it—to do what they darn well please with their own money, resorting to all kinds of sophistical special pleading as to the distinction between a speculation and an investment, and endeavouring to explain away their error—due to Party funk—in keeping material information from the House when purporting to make a full disclosure of the facts. And we are to have the spectacle of several hundred Party hacks throwing at each others' heads various parts of the Report of a bogus Committee, whose "conclusions" were formed before they heard a word of the "evidence." And, finally, we are to see the same hacks marching through the Division Lobbies—with an automatic majority of a hundred in "vindication" of the Attorney-General and his friends.

THE PARTY FUNDS.

We have purposely postponed reference to this branch of the subject. Of course, much will be made of the fact that the ex-Liberal Whip put a few thousands of the funds by means of which the Party machine is worked into the Marconi basket, having, like the Attorney-General, succumbed to the leg-pulling process of the wily Godfrey. But surely Lord Murray's critics will be on dangerous ground. Once open up the subject of these secret funds, and the public will insist upon another—and in this case a *real*—Inquiry. Just think of the chaotic manner in which the Party Business is run. The old Whip resigns, goes abroad, hands over several thousands of pounds' worth of shares to his brother on the understanding that the new Whip is to be kept in the dark about the matter! We are tempted to ask—Are no books or accounts kept at the Chief Whip's office? Is there no list of securities? Are there any other share certificates, or scrip, knocking about, unknown to the innocent Illingworth? And how are the Tory funds invested? And the Irish? (We believe that the Scotch and the Welsh divide as they go along.) No, the Party leaders had better give the Party funds a miss.

Isn't the whole thing a farce? Isn't it a fraud? We repeat that but for the exigencies of Party we should have heard nothing about this Marconi share business. There is nothing within a million miles of corruption in it. It was simply a shrewd stroke of business on the part of the Attorney-General's brother. Mr. Lloyd George must, of course, be prepared for chaff for having touched the unclean thing of a Stock Exchange flutter, but he is really a big enough man to join in the laugh. Sir Rufus Isaacs is a man whose whole life gives the lie to any suggestion of selfish or corrupt motive, and Lord Murray can say, "If you don't hold your tongues about the Party funds, I'll give the whole game away."

Returning to our metaphor, the question is—

Did Godfrey Isaacs pull his Brother's Leg?

Those who are *not* of that opinion will say "Eye"—on the contrary, "Leg."

The Legs have it.

Legs to the right—Eyes to the Wrong.

The Legs have it.

The question is that this House do now adjourn.

The Ayes haven't it.—The Noes haven't it.—*Nobody will have it.*

Adjourned till April 1st, 1914.

"WHO GOES HOME"?

Davey George and Boney Law (Arm-in-arm).

Reading Rufus and Bobby Hitchin (In Rufus' car).

Pump-Handle Booth and Banbury Bun (On the 'Bus).

Godfrey—*In a fit* (of laughter).

PRISON FOR POVERTY.

THE CRIME FOR WHICH THERE IS NO FORGIVENESS.

Imprisonment "without the option" may, in many instances, be a perfectly just penalty, but it is hard to discern the equity of sending a man to gaol for a lengthy term for no worse crime than the inability to pay a heavy fine.

A milk vendor, named William Huggins, was recently convicted by the Penge Bench of an offence under the Food and Drugs Act. It was alleged that Huggins had "impeded" a County Council inspector in the execution of his duty, first by refusing to supply the official with a sample, and then by overthrowing a pan of milk. The milk-man offered a perfectly reasonable explanation of his conduct, suggesting that the inspector had behaved in a most insolent manner, and declaring that the spilt milk had never been intended for sale, but was, in fact, set aside for domestic use. This defence was summarily rejected by the Bench. The Magistrates appear to have implicitly relied upon the testimony of the inspector, and they fined Huggins £50—or, "in the alternative," three months in gaol.

We will not stay to discuss the slenderness of the evidence upon which the magistrates thought fit to convict, neither is it our purpose to lay stress upon the exorbitance of the fine. The annals of the Great Unpaid are, unhappily, full of such sinister anomalies. Our present concern is to insist that the supposed "alternative" sentence was the merest mockery. Huggins was a poor man, struggling hard for a bare subsistence, in the teeth of growing difficulties. To find a tithe of the money would have severely taxed his slender resources. To collect the whole of it was a sheer impossibility. To-day he is in Wandsworth Gaol, herded with common felons. What for?

For parrying an inspector's inquisition and upsetting a pan of milk? Clearly not. The magistrates, in their wisdom, decided that the payment of fifty sovereigns might fitly purge these heinous crimes. But the failure to find the golden charm is a more serious matter. For that dire offence, the unhappy culprit must be thrust into the gloom of a prison house, there to work out the penalty of his poverty in the bitter solitude of a felon's cell.

The "alternative sentence" system is, at the best, an inequitable absurdity. In the hands of inept or callous justices it becomes an engine of dire oppression.

MULCTING MICHAELS.

PORTSMOUTH PROTEAN PIRATE PUNISHED.

Henry Michaels, of 112, High Street, Portsmouth (otherwise 78, Pearl Buildings)—the quick-change trickster, whose machinations in the brass chain, cum rubber stamp, cum medical apparatus, cum fortune telling line we recently exposed—has got into trouble in respect of his last-named field of energy, for the working of which, it will be remembered from our recent article, he called himself Professor Cairo. The police, of course, had no difficulty in proving that Michaels was a colossal humbug, who offered for sixpence to describe "changes in circumstances, journeys, money prospects, fortunate seasons for business speculations, and"—last but not least—"marriage partner." Senders who "banged" the amount received identically the same long rigmarole, which wound up with the statement that although, like the Scotchman, Michaels could give precious little for sixpence, for a couple of guineas he would describe everything that has happened from the time of birth and foretell all future events down to the date of death. The various witnesses—possibly holding that "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," and that it is not conducive to happiness to know too much regarding the future—did not respond, whereupon Michaels, "rather than destroy the records" which he purported to have made immediately on receipt of the sixpence, reduced his demand to 10s.! No wonder he was convicted as a rogue and a vagabond, and fined £15. Perhaps the authorities will now inquire into Michaels' operations as "the leading South African Goldsmith, Court Jeweller and Diamond Merchant."

SHARP PRACTICE.

ITINERANT INSPECTOR AND ESSEX TRADESMAN.

A Coggleshall reader owns a cart in respect of which he has, till this year, paid an annual licence. In April last he determined not to renew it, intending thenceforth to reserve the vehicle for trade use. Agreeably to this resolution, he instructed a local tradesman to paint a name board for the cart, as required by law. Before this job was completed—on April 22nd—one of the Essex County Council inspectors came on the scene to make inquiries concerning the unpaid licence. Our correspondent tells us that he courteously explained the reasons for non-payment, whereupon the official desired to inspect the cart. There was, of course, no name upon it, but the owner again explained that he had actually ordered the name plate—a fact which the inspector might quite easily have verified for himself. Indeed, the owner understood that the Council's representative was quite satisfied with the statement, but gathered that it might be well if he paid up the licence duty to save further bother and so that he might use the cart for anything he liked. He, therefore, at once handed the inspector fifteen shillings, and in due course received a formal receipt from the Council.

Meanwhile, however—much to the tradesman's subsequent surprise—the inspector proceeded to report him to the Council for keeping a cart without a licence. A month later, our correspondent received a summons to attend the Witham Police Court, there to answer an information sworn against him by that official. The payment on April 22nd availed him nothing, neither did the magistrates pay regard to his assertion that the inspector led him to believe that such payment would "save further bother." They convicted him and "further bothered" him to the tune of a fifteen-shilling fine and four shillings costs. Our correspondent is thus thirty-four shillings out of pocket on the deal.

In our view, the inspector should have been at pains to verify the tradesman's explanation, the truth of which would have rendered him immune from legal proceedings.

UNAPPROPRIATED BLESSINGS.

A WAY THEY HAVE IN THE NAVY—AND ARMY.

Months ago we commented upon the extraordinary policy of the Military and Naval authorities in regard to the surplus stores supplied to the forces of the Crown. Although it is to be expected that—with the enormous quantities requisitioned every year (the Navy takes about three million pounds' worth of food and clothing alone)—there must, despite every reasonable care, occasionally be an over-estimate, the bigwigs at Whitehall refuse to recognise this, and, in fact, treat as an offence the possession of undistributed goods. The result has been scandals which have brought sorrow upon zealous officers. The latest victim is poor Engineer Commander Fryer, who was in charge of the Oil Fuel Works at Haslar. Upon the eve of the day fixed for a Court Martial at which he was to prosecute a subordinate on a charge of stealing some copper, Fryer wrote an affecting letter to the Admiral Commanding at Portsmouth Naval Barracks, in which he said that after the date of the alleged theft he found he had a surplus of stores, and in a weak moment had them hidden—where, he did not know—and the transaction "bolstered up with lies." Although the case in which he was to appear was in no way connected with this matter, nor was he likely to have been reprimanded over it—as a matter of fact, the accused man was acquitted—his knowledge that he had in this way covered his technical offence of over-ordering had so worked upon his mind as to cause him to take his life.

At the inquest one of the witnesses is reported to have put the thing in a very cool way: "There was no reason why an officer having surplus stores should hide them. He could have taken them away." We believe it is widely held in the Services that surplus goods cease to be the property of the Nation and belong to the official who made the mistake of requisitioning more than was wanted. Is not it time that common sense was applied to the matter—that it was recognised that errors must arise, and that instructions were issued for the open return of any surplus?

"Bullets" Booming! Prizes AGAIN Increased this week.

THE ETHICS OF "DAMN."

A PLEA FOR A POPULAR EXPLETIVE.

By A Parson.

As a parson, the present writer is officially supposed to protest against the use of the word Damn. Yet, after all, what a useful word it is! What a force of expression it contains, to be found in no other current word of the language. Convention, unfortunately, denies its use to parsons. Yet, often and often, how much better it would be if they could employ this healthy safety-valve for their latent feelings. Let no one misunderstand me. "Damn," from the point of view of higher ethics, should never be used by a man who has lost his temper.

A Breezy Bishop.

Under such conditions, how effective might it not be in the mouth even of a bishop? For example, an inexperienced but enthusiastic young curate has to be admonished for preaching extravagant Socialism to a highly-respectable well-to-do middle-class congregation of Suburbia; or another for silly flirting with Sunday school teachers; or even a vicar for introducing fancy ritual, or for copying the vagaries of an alien branch of the Church. In these, and all similar cases, a strong, sensible bishop, instead of sweet reasoning, sentimental pleadings, altruistic appeals to conscience, and so on, or a long and wearying series of expostulatory letters (bishops are for ever growling about their enormous correspondence), a strong and sensible bishop would merely say, "Look here now, don't be a damned fool." The effect would be positively electrical, no doubt. But it would clear a great deal of electricity out of the air, and in the event, last far beyond the limits of the ordinary electric shock. No one seriously complains about the experienced and very human colonel of a regiment who, taking a real interest in his subalterns, when he sees them going wrong brings them up short with this simple, straightforward, downright and, I would add, good old English language. Well, why shouldn't bishops be human and English too? As Alfred Percival Evans said in his inimitable "Father O'Flynn," "Cannot the clargy be Irishmen too?"

Clearing the Air.

There are many occasions, too, in a parish where the rector, with a well-considered "Damn" (there is virtue in that "well-considered") might bring an erring parishioner to book when nothing else would move him. Or at a vestry meeting, when storms seem looming, much friction might thus be avoided. But here I am at once asked, "Do you really mean that you advocate swearing for the clergy?" My reply is, What is swearing? Like Pilate, I do not wait for an answer, but hasten myself to say that the Third Commandment clearly implies that swearing involves the frivolous introduction of the name of God. If the Sacred Name is added to the word "Damn," or in any way brought lightly or passionately into an oath, that is undoubtedly swearing. But the ordinary breezy use of the word, or of the expression "What the Devil?" cannot seriously be denominated "swearing," any more than saying "bother" or "dash it," of which some one wrote rather absurdly:—

"Naughty little cuss-words,
'Bother,' 'dash it,' 'blow,'
These and other wuss-words
Send you down below."

"Send you down below"—here lies the crucial test of the idea of cursing or swearing. Johnson defines "To damn" thus: "To doom to eternal torments in a future state"; and "Damnation" as "Exclusion from Divine mercy." Now if "Damn you" implied the certainty of consigning another to such an appalling prospect, doubtless it would be an inhuman thing to use the expression, and it might well be regarded as the worst form of cursing imaginable. But now that comparatively few people believe in eternal punishment, and all are agreed that no wish of another person could have the slightest effect on one's future, these expressions have entirely lost any such significance, even though they may have once possessed it, in the extreme sense, in the minds of the persons using them.

There is one other consideration, which is that "swearing," so-called, is bad form. So it is, in excess. I should rather bar the society of a man whose every other sentence included the word "Damn." To begin with, the expression would entirely lose its utilitarian power. Such use would be merely a silly, bad habit, and certainly give needless offence. It would be a sign of weakness. And it might well be called bad taste.

Its Literary Use.

It would be easy to appeal to the finest literature in defence of a judicious use of the word "Damn." And here we may especially notice that, in the works of the best authors, conversation is never peppered with expletives of any kind, so that when they are used they are always natural to the character and the situation; and therefore most effective. Shakespeare's use is sparing: but who would expurgate Lady Macbeth's "Out, damned spot, out"? Any other epithet, such as "nasty," "horrid," would be too feeble. Or what would Sheridan's Sir Anthony Absolute be without his characteristic "Damme"? Could anything be more delightfully expressive than the reply to Charles Surface's "Lady Teazle, by all that's wonderful!" when Sir Peter Teazle says: "Lady Teazle, by all that's damnable"? Considering the classes of society of which he wrote, Dickens is no squanderer of "Damn," but readers of "Nickleby" remember Mr. Mantilini's delightful usage.

That "Voice"!

In Mark Twain's famous and inimitable story of "The Man that corrupted Hadleyburg," one of the Incorruptibles, a Mr. Wilson, observes to his fellow citizens thronging the town-hall: "You will allow me to say, and without any apologies for my language, *Damn* the money!" *A Voice:* "Oh, and him a Baptist!" Now this is precisely what the writer of this article would expect from hundreds of voices, "Oh, and him a parson!" Yes; from voices of Churchmen, Congregationalists, Baptists, Methodists, *et hoc genus omne*, down to the latest sect of those who base their religion on a Pharisaical conscience. But I venture to reply, "Let him that has *never*, *never* used a big big 'D' first throw a stone", and then I feel comfortably secure. I might also ask, which is the deeper motive of such Pharisees—Conscience, or the widespread pleasure of having a shy at a parson? Anyway, I still maintain that for men of commonsense (including even those parsons who possess that valuable commodity) and for men with a grip on life and humanity, there are—not generally, but from time to time—occasions and crises, when, like Mr. Wilson aforesaid, "without any apology for their language," the best words they can use are "Damn" and its forcible derivatives.

Your Last Chance to Win Our £1,000 Cricket Prize. Final Coupon.

SLAVERY UNDER THE LAW.

KIDNAPPING MYSTERY AT A WELSH FARM.

On April 29th, 1908, William Ball, an eleven-year-old Bristol boy, was convicted of stealing a few sweets from a broken shop window. For this dastardly crime he was committed to the Park Row Industrial School, Bristol, till he should attain the age of 16 in April of this year.

During his incarceration, the lad wrote regularly to his parents, and there was much rejoicing in the family circle at the prospect of his home-coming at the expiry of his term. Every preparation was made for the happy event, but in February last the parents learned, not officially but by sheer accident, that their boy had been sent to toil as a farm drudge in a remote Welsh village, eight miles from the nearest railway station. No inkling of this fact had escaped the school authorities, and the parents' wishes had never for one moment been consulted.

Stunned by the news, the father at once wrote to Mr. J. Franks, Superintendent of the Park Row Industrial School. For reply he received a curt note confirming the bitter tidings, together with a printed "warning" that if the father should aid his son to "escape" from the farmer to whom he was bound, he would render himself liable to a fine of twenty pounds or to two months' imprisonment with or without hard labour, under a section of the vexatious "Children Act" of 1908. In reply to the father's anxious questions as to the date of the lad's home-coming, the Superintendent cryptically wrote, "His birthday is on April 10th," which, if it meant anything, meant that he might be expected home on that date.

Distracted by this epistle, and by the confirmation of his worst fears, Mr. Ball at once wrote to the Welsh farm for tidings of his son. He received no reply. Again and again he has renewed his appeal both to the boy and to his employer, even registering his letters to ensure delivery and enclosing stamped addressed envelopes for reply, but to this day his son's circumstances are wrapped in impenetrable gloom. Application to Mr. Franks for official information as to the lad's whereabouts and prospects evoked the crushing response that his liberation would be postponed till April, 1915.

At last, wearied by fruitless correspondence, Mr. Ball visited the home and demanded an interview with Mr. Franks. He was then informed that the Superintendent himself was cut off from all communication with his former pupil. Official letters to the farmer had proved as unavailing as those of the boy's father. The unhappy lad's fate was shrouded in dense mystery to which there was no single clue.

Ultimately, Mr. Franks agreed to visit the farm in person and to demand information as to the welfare of his official charge. Mollified by this assurance, Mr. Ball returned home to await the promised message. A few days later he received a letter from the Superintendent, stating that a communication had been received from the boy and detailing its terms. The letter was not enclosed, although the father had expressed an urgent desire to see his son's handwriting.

He now declares his intention of visiting the Welsh farm in person and bringing his son away. His decision is a natural and a human one. Will it involve a breach of the law? We can scarce believe that the section of the Children Act referred to was intended to facilitate the spiriting away of a youth of sixteen, who has served the full extent of the sentence imposed upon him by law.

There should be an immediate inquiry into the whole of the circumstances. We call upon the Home Office to act with vigour and without delay.

"JOHN BULL'S BOYS."

We find that it will take considerably longer than was anticipated in completing the models of the *Terra Nova*, which it is proposed to present, on behalf of our readers, to the sons of the late Captain Scott, and Petty Officer Evans. The order has, however, been placed with Messrs. Mappin and Webb, who promise to expedite delivery as much as possible. We shall arrange for the models to be on view in due course. Meanwhile, we have much pleasure in acknowledging a further sum of 2s. 6d., from "Tyke."

A CRUEL SHAME.

DESERVING DOMESTIC'S DIRE DISTRESS.

"What can a servant do when he cannot get a reference from his last employer?" The question is addressed to us by an inquirer who has suffered cruel hardship through his late master's stubborn refusal to speak for him the friendly word. Our correspondent is a butler and holds excellent references from gentlemen whom he has served. He spent five years in the employ of a well-known baronet, and was rewarded with a glowing testimonial. In March, 1912, he entered the service of a Horsham resident, remaining with him for more than a year, and finally leaving of his own accord and with a view to the betterment of his position. We are assured that our correspondent's conduct during this period was of an exemplary character, and master and man parted on the best of terms. Confident of his late employer's goodwill, the butler at once applied for a vacant post. His prospective master wrote to the Horsham magnate for a reference. No reply was vouchsafed, and a second application proved equally futile. The man thus lost the chance of obtaining an excellent post, which he would most certainly have secured but for the heartless indifference of his former master. The unfortunate servant has since made repeated applications for a reference, and several other persons have written on his behalf, but all to no purpose. For some obscure reason, or for no reason at all other than his own lazy indifference, the Horsham gentleman obstinately refuses to put pen to paper to save his former employé from beggary and ruin. Without a recent testimonial he is utterly helpless, and already he is on the verge of destitution.

And yet, as the law stands, there is no remedy. An employer is within his legal rights in withholding a reference, even though his neglect is utterly unreasonable and flagrantly unjust.

MARITIME MEANNESS.

SHUFFLING SHIPPERS' SHABBY SHIFTS.

On March 7th last, a terrific dynamite explosion occurred in Baltimore Harbour, U.S.A., and the s.s. *Alum Chine*, belonging to Messrs. G. H. Harper and Co., of Cardiff, was blown to atoms. Happily the crew had left the vessel, but eight poor fellows who had lingered on the wharf were killed outright, and several others had an almost miraculous escape. The surviving hands suffered severe loss by the destruction of their personal effects, which had not been removed from the ill-fated vessel. Several of them approached the British Consul at Baltimore. One correspondent alleges that he and his shipmates were compelled to spend the few shillings they possessed on fruitless journeyings to and from the Consul's office, and that they received no allowance whatever for the expenses to which they were put. Such complaints are all too common, and merit the closer attention of the Board of Trade.

On March 29th the survivors sailed for Liverpool in the s.s. *Rowanmore*. Arrived there, one or two of the men who had suffered injuries preferred claims for compensation against the owners of the *Alum Chine*. The matter was taken up by the Shipping Federation on behalf of Messrs. Harper and Co. The Federation apparently emulates the tactics of certain insurance companies of the meaner sort, and these men who, but for a lucky chance, would have perished in the service of their employers, were offered four pounds each as a solatium for their injury and pain. The sufferers wisely declined this paltry offer, preferring to submit their claims to arbitration. We understand that a weekly compensation allowance has now been awarded, but the shipowners have meanly claimed three of the weekly instalments as a set-off against the payment of the survivors' passage money from Baltimore to Liverpool.

Even now the men have not received a penny of compensation for the loss of their personal belongings. Formal application to Messrs. Harper and Co. has resulted only in vague and evasive replies. It is hard to believe that the Directors are personally responsible for the shabby treatment meted out to men who have imperilled their lives in their service. Such tactics are consonant with neither their dignity nor their interests.

£500 for a "Bullet." Over 1,100 other CASH Prizes.

A FEARSOME FIAT.

MANCHESTER MAGNATES' MAUDLIN MALICE.

The Manchester City Watch Committee have conferred a signal honour upon Councillor Ross Clyne. They have expelled him from their midst, with the sanction of the City Council. It were idle to tender any expression of sympathy to the worthy Councillor. He will doubtless be glad to resume the society of decent men.

In our issue of April 12th, under the heading "Mean Mandarins," we detailed the circumstances in which Mr. Ross Clyne earned the disfavour of his colleagues. The trouble arose over the misdoings of two police officers, apt pupils of the princely Peacock, Manchester's Prefect of Police. Judge Mellor had mulcted the constables in damages for improper arrest. The Watch Committee, to whom a nod from Peacock is as an Imperial edict, tacitly approved the excesses of the policemen, paid the damages out of the ratepayers' money, and finally embarked upon a subterfanean campaign of backbiting and slander against the Judge whose very proper decision they had thus insolently flouted. Mr. Ross Clyne refused to be a party to these contemptible proceedings. With commendable courage he told his colleagues what he thought of them in terms which lacked nothing in directness or candour. Our readers may remember the series of sorry shifts by which the Committee sought to justify their unprincipled procedure—culminating in the vote of censure upon Mr. Ross Clyne, which was subsequently confirmed by the City Council. One brilliant stroke of duplicity was to send to the Judge—who, upon Mr. Ross Clyne's information of the malicious charges made against him by the Committee, threatened them with proceedings—a vote of censure upon the independent Councillor, cunningly worded to convey the impression that these charges had been made by Councillor Clyne.

THE POLICY OF HUSH.

But the matter was not to end there. A man who has once blurted out the naked truth without fear or favour may do it again. There is no knowing where he may break out next. A man who cannot be trusted to keep a scurvy secret has no place on the Manchester Watch Committee. Moreover, Councillor Ross Clyne has a passion for knowledge, and a love of free discussion, which is positively indecent. His brutal directness of speech and appalling accuracy of assertion are utterly alien to the soft amenities of public life. Mr. Ross Clyne is the last man in Manchester who should sit on the Watch Committee. He is the man who knows—and says what he knows. The fieriest flash from the stern eye of the plenipotent Peacock cannot still that terrible tongue.

The Committee met in solemn and secret conclave. Their loins were girt about with figurative sackcloth, and metaphorical ashes sat upon their worthy heads. More in sorrow than in anger, they decided that they and Clyne must part. He had violated the secrecies of civic state and committed blasphemy against Bumble—which is the unforgivable sin. Gently, but firmly, they thrust him forth. Mighty Committee! Proud Peacock!

MISPLACED MAUDLINISM.

The sequel occurred at the meeting of the City Council on June 4th, when the matter came up for discussion on report from the Watch Committee. Meanwhile, the "expulsionists" had sedulously canvassed the Councillors with a view to a bumping score. Alderman Thewlis rose to move that the decision of the Committee be endorsed. Almost tearfully he expressed his sorrow that he, of all men, should have been selected for the sad task. At one point in his doleful dirge, the worthy Alderman appears to have been on the verge of collapse, but an inspiring glance from the Chief Constable revived his drooping spirits. With grim courage he held on his appointed course, and manfully made an end.

There are 140 members of the Manchester City Council, but only thirty-four could be "whipped in" to take a hand in the *coup de grace*. Seventeen supported Councillor Ross Clyne. By the vote of a handful of civic nonentities, Mr. Clyne has been declared unfit for a seat on the Watch Committee, to the business of which he has devoted unremitting attention. He will appeal from their trumpery verdict to a wider and worthier tribunal.

A DOGGY DODGER.

LILLIPUTIAN LAPDOGS AND LIPSALVE.

The trade in ladies' toy dogs must be very profitable as carried out by a man named Coombs. Here is his *modus operandi*. He inserts in the daily press an advertisement such as this:—

> Loviest pair tiniest toy chocolate Pomeranians; grand sire Ch. Tufnel King; over distemper; male, 15s., female, 10s.; fit win; their mother, £5. Approval, appointment. Ardley, West Moors, Wimborne.

A London reader asked that two of the puppies might be sent to her on approval, and received the following reply:—

> I shall be only too pleased to send either or both of my little Poms. on a week's approval on receipt of postal order; am quite sure you will be more than pleased and would decide to purchase as soon as unpacked.
>
> Had I offered them at their full value I would have accepted post-dated P.O.O. or deposit, but at this price I could not even consider such terms, and will only send on approval on receipt of P.O.
>
> They are clean in house, over distemper, and in perfect health and condition. Absolute midgets, cobby and fine in bone, with heavy stand-off coats, no white hairs or shadings, and tails flat on backs. They are no trouble at all, but general favourites with everyone.
>
> No vice, defects or blemish, and at these prices are almost gifts, but I do so want really nice homes, as they have always been used to petting.
>
> Both parents have one, and the full champion pedigree will be sent to purchaser. The male weighs 2 lbs. and the bitch 2¾ lbs.; they are just about 5 months old, so should be full grown in another 3 months I should say.
>
> I think you will see by the enclosed that I am perfectly safe, but I will send you excellent personal references if you wish.
>
> I shall be so glad of a speedy reply as I have had so many applications, but most of them have been offers of exchange and these offers I could not consider.—Yours faithfully, E. COOMBS.

Enclosed with this letter is a whining printed circular addressed to "My Clients." It presumes to set forth the life of the dog fancier Coombs. Here is a choice quotation: "I had a severe illness at the close of my first term at College, and this left me with my lower limbs completely paralysed, so there is not the slightest hope of my ever being able to walk again."

Our reader then posted the 25s., and asked that the pups might be forwarded—but, instead, she was told that they were ill and would be sent as soon as they recovered. She naturally then asked for the return of her money—but, like the butter that stuck in the dog's throat, it wanted a bit of getting, so we were consulted in the matter. Coombs, after a little mild persuasion, has promised us to refund the amount. We shall keep our eye on him—especially as he "finds his greatest joy in travelling."

"THE GREAT WHITE SCOURGE."

OUR READERS SAVE A DESERVING GIRL.

It is always pleasant to know that good has resulted through our instrumentality. In our issue of June 7th we brought before our readers the case of a poor young woman afflicted with consumption but, through some muddle on the part of National Insurance officials, without the medical attention she urgently required. Our paragraph had immediate effect, for she has been found accommodation in a sanatorium. The following simple letter of thanks will, we are sure, be read with pleasure by all our readers who rendered financial assistance:—

> Please convey my heartfelt thanks to those benefactors who have so kindly interested themselves on my behalf. I must again thank you for your splendid efforts for me. Without your help it would have been a very bad outlook for me. It seems wonderful that there are so many good people.

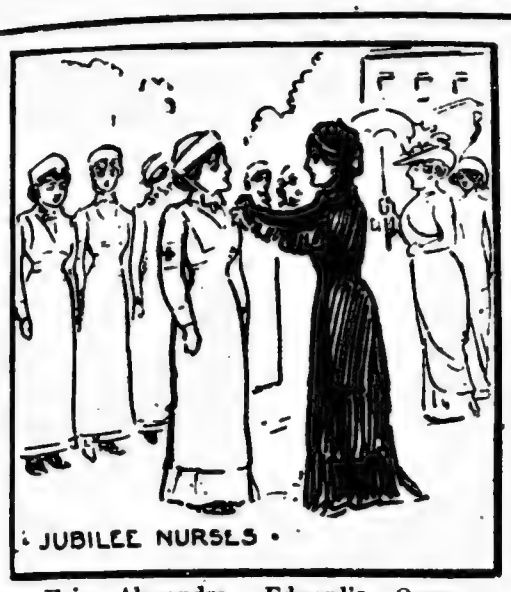
And yet cynics say there is no gratitude to be found in the world!

Although the officials had, apparently, taken no steps to find a vacancy during the six weeks preceding the publication of our paragraph, immediately it appeared they were able to accommodate her!

Being Talked About—Our Great Fountain Pen Offer. See page 913.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



Fair Alexandra, Edward's Queen,
Made up of kind and tender mercies,
In the adjacent sketch is seen
In friendly intercourse with nurses.

Once more the ready whitewash brush
In Party interests is wielded,
But 'twill be difficult to crush
Thoughts that the evidence has yielded.

Their Majesties to Richmond go—
Pursued by loyal acclamations—
To see the famous Gee-gee Show,
And make befitting approbations.

A nursemaid with a hero's soul
Untimely sinks into the grave—
Inscribe her name upon the roll
Of the superlatively brave.

There's something in the air of June
That makes for marriages, it seems—
Lords wed with chorus girls; the moon
Shine softly on their happy dreams!

The vice of gambling's not confined
To the male sex, it now appears,
For ladies try that horse to find
That is a "cert."—the pretty dears!

"STEALING BY FINDING."

INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS' STRANGE ACTION.

Possession is said to be nine-points of the law, and this would certainly appear to be so where the Insurance Commissioners are concerned. A firm of motor-body builders were recently summoned for making illegal deductions from their employees' wages. It appears that the firm had for some time neglected to make any deduction at all, and then, in a sort of effort to make up for lost time, they had set about deducting several weeks' arrears from a single week's wages, as much as 6s. 8d. being subtracted from one man's earnings. Any such proceeding is specifically barred by the Act itself, and is, moreover, grossly unfair. The magistrates declared, however, that since the money had been actually paid over to the Commissioners, there was no way of getting it back, and that they could not order it to be refunded. This is surely a strange condition of affairs. Apparently the Insurance Commissioners are to be allowed to retain money which they have come by illegally. If this is in fact the law, which we take leave to question, it is high time it was altered. Many an ignorant man who has picked up a purse in the street has discovered to his cost that there is an offence commonly called "stealing by finding." For the Insuranc Commissioners, however, the ordinary law of the realm has no terrors—they are proposing to retain the money even though the rightful owners are known to them.

"'WARE WILY WELLS!"

A VERBAL CORRECTION.

We regret that in the paragraph under the above heading in our issue of June 7th we inadvertently stated that, after receiving certain sums on account, Mr. Wells, the Leicester money-lender who advanced £5 to one of our readers against a promissory note for £7 10s., in addition to 4s. for out-of-pocket expenses, "issued a writ in the County Court seeking to recover the whole amount named in his promissory note." This was obviously a verbal slip, and the sentence should have read: "Seeking to recover the *balance of the amount* named in his promissory note."

To this extent we offer our apologies to Mr. Wells; otherwise we adhere to the views expressed in our previous paragraph.

THE MAN IN POSSESSION.

A reader who says he is our humble servant, complains that "the present law provides that the possession-man is to have 4s. 6d. a day or part of a day. Instead of this the average is only 3s. a day. If the men insist on having the full amount the law allows, the house agents very seldom employ them the second time." Our compliments, but it would be difficult for us to work up any effective pathos over his complaint. We can only advise all men in possession to strike.

Our Third Great Cricket Contest Closes this week. Final Coupon.

MANGLES AND WANGLES.

JUSTICE DENIED TO VICTIM OF CRUEL WRONG.

On July 12th, 1912, the following advertisement appeared in the columns of a daily journal:—

> MECHANIC requires smart young man to solicit orders, seaside town, wages 25s. and expenses; cash security £25, returnable. Write or apply J. T., 12, Mozart Street, Harrow Road, W.

One of our readers applied for the position and was accorded an interview with a Mr. James Treby, who describes himself as a "laundry engineer." Mr. Treby explained that the applicant would be required to solicit orders for mangle rollers. Our correspondent accepted the position and handed over his twenty-five pounds as security. He was then given a couple of shillings "travelling allowance," and despatched to Southend-on-Sea.

From the outset, Mr. Treby seems to have treated his canvasser in a way which, to say the least, was highly inconsiderate. His slender wage was most irregularly paid, so that by last Christmas it was no less than £3 10s. in arrears. Our correspondent had, moreover, owing to him expenses to the amount of £2.

At the beginning of this year the agent appears to have decided to "cut his losses," and he accordingly entered into an arrangement with Mr. Treby, by virtue of which he was to receive, in lieu of wages, half the purchase money on all orders received. Unhappily, this new agreement appears to have synchronised with a bad slump in the mangle trade. Our correspondent's position was now worse than before, and he therefore determined to quit the business, and apprised his employer of his intention. This was on March 19th. Since then the unfortunate agent has made repeated application for the return of his £25, but hitherto without result. Persuasions and threats have alike failed to induce Mr. Treby to part with the money, to which, of course, he has no vestige of right or claim. We should have thought the remedy obvious. There are Courts and judges for the righting of such manifest wrongs, but here again is the rub.

On May 10th, our correspondent took out a summons in the Westminster County Court, for which, he tells us, he was called upon to pay the exorbitant fee of £1 3s. To obtain this money he had to pawn and sell his goods. He is now informed by the Court officials that he must pay a further "hearing fee" of £2, failing which his just and lawful action will be struck out of the list. The plaintiff cannot pay the money. He has no more goods to pledge or sell, and the accumulated savings of his life-time are in the safe custody of Mr. Treby. The extortionate scale of Court costs is tantamount to a denial of justice.

HOME SWEET HOME.

STRANGE STORY OF A SOLDIERS' SANCTUM.

The Brigade of Guards, the personal protectors of His Majesty and the delight of all the pretty servant girls, have their depot at Caterham. Here the young "idea" is taught, literally, to shoot. Here also is situated a Soldiers' Home, but the strange part of the business is that very few soldiers use it—not because they do not like to, but because they cannot get out of barracks to do so. The Home was built, and is supported by, subscriptions of past and present Guardsmen, but when we paid it a visit a few days ago we found it occupied by civilians—a young curate, ever ready to improve the shining hour, having established within its four walls what he calls a St. Laurence Guild. No doubt it is very nice for the curate and his flock, but it is very rough upon the young Guardsmen who are systematically being kept out of their own—for there is a particularly irritating function which principally precludes them from using it. It is what is popularly—or rather unpopularly—known as the "Shining Parade." This takes place at 7 o'clock in the evening, and each recruit must then show his kit and equipment thoroughly clean. By the time this unnecessary formality is finished and the men have got into walking out dress, it is 8 p.m. At 9.30 they must again be in barracks—so it will be seen that they have but one hour for the Home—during the daytime their multifarious duties keep them fully occupied.

ONLY A BURTON LUNATIC.

AN URGENT CASE FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY.

There seems to be urgent need of an official inquiry into some allegations which have been made to us regarding a man of the name of Daniels, placed by the Burton-on-Trent Board of Guardians in Mickleover County Asylum, near Derby, when he became insane as a result of spinal disease. It would seem that, after being an inmate for about a year and a half, he died, and was buried in the grounds of the Asylum without any reference whatever to his widow, who had regularly visited her husband, and who heard of his death only when, having written stating she intended to visit him, the letter was returned to her opened, with the intimation that he was already buried.

Coming at this time and in this way, the news was, of course, a terrible shock to the woman. The widow says that on leaving her home for Matlock she notified to the Asylum authorities her temporary change of address, and they explain that it was there they sent the notice of her husband's death. But the poor man did not die until long after she had left Matlock and had informed them of her return home—she had written letters to the Asylum many times since from her home address, the answers to which were received by her there. It would accordingly appear that the forwarding to Matlock of the intelligence of the death must have been due to gross bungling; and when the letter was returned to them the officials do not appear to have concerned themselves further about the matter. They apparently did not make a single inquiry at her home or through the Guardians. The patient was dead; the letter to the widow was returned. To make a fuss about the feelings of a lunatic's widow, to endeavour to discover whether she herself was alive or dead, that would be giving themselves too much trouble; it would also have cost another penny or twopence in stamps.

And so, we are told, they stuck the poor lunatic's body in a coffin without a nameplate, and as the casket was too narrow to place him on his back they stuffed him in on his side—stuffed him in naked, packed him round with paper and shavings, and buried him. We make no comments on these statements, pending an inquiry in regard to them. The public will be anxious to know the result with as little delay as possible, for if this is the way relatives are treated and the bodies of their afflicted—to whose maintenance they contributed in life—are served in the Mickleover County Asylum, the sooner they have the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the better. An exhaustive investigation should be held at once.

BOUND OVER!

"POT SHOTS FROM A CHELSEA MILK SHOP."

The day after the publication of our last week's paragraph with reference to the Chelsea dairyman who kept a revolver on the premises and was in the habit of terrifying the people in the immediate vicinity by target practice at imaginary objects, the younger member of the firm was hauled up before the Magistrate at Westminster and bound over in the sum of £10 to be of good behaviour for 12 months. In view of the evidence that was placed before Mr. Francis, this trivial punishment appears to be a grave miscarriage of justice. It was clearly proved that four shots were fired in the dairy—two of the bullets crashing through the shop window across the street into the parlour of a widow. There were two children in the room, and they had narrow escapes from injury.

The Evanses terrorise Radnor Street, these shooting affrays were of frequent occurrence, and the police—instead of being so pally with the elder Taffy—should in future keep their eye on the premises, and deal with them as with ordinary citizens. As we go to press, we hear a rumour that three constables have been severely punished over the affair. And so we should think, considering that the disgraceful episode was hushed up for three weeks before steps were taken to bring the culprit to book.

"Bullets" Prizes AGAIN Increased! See page 918.

HOW TO INCREASE YOUR MONEY MAKING POWERS.

Sensational Success of "T.P.'s" Great Offer.

APPLICATIONS FOR FREE BOOK OF PARTICULARS POURING IN FROM "JOHN BULL" READERS.

There has been a sensational response to "T.P.'s" Great Offer announced in JOHN BULL on May 17th.

This offer is being made to every reader who wishes to train his mind to make more money.

A book has been prepared describing this plan, which is sent gratis and post free to every reader who applies for it.

Ever since the announcement appeared, applications have been pouring in for free copies of this book.

As already stated in JOHN BULL, this free book describes a unique plan by which readers are enabled to increase their efficiency and to double or treble their money-earning powers by training their minds on the world-famous Pelman System at a reduction of nearly half the usual cost.

THE MEN WHO "GET ON."

Who are the men who succeed in business, in finance, in trade, and in the professions to-day?

It is the men who have trained their minds as an athlete trains his muscles, and thereby doubled their powers of "getting on."

The mind is like the muscles—it can be developed and strengthened by scientific training.

This is what the Pelman Course (which you have now the opportunity of securing for yourself at nearly half the usual cost) enables you to do.

The Pelman Course has already enabled over 200,000 men and women to improve their positions in life and to earn more money.

Striking letters from many of these men and women are printed in the book posted you on application, gratis and post free.

The leading business and professional men of the day praise this system in the highest terms and recommend it to all who are dissatisfied with their present rate of progress in the world.

RECOMMENDED BY "JOHN BULL."

JOHN BULL strongly recommends this system to its readers. These are the words of JOHN BULL on this subject:—

> We have carefully investigated the genuineness of the Pelman System, and have no hesitation in advising our readers who desire to strengthen their memories to undergo the course. The many testimonials show in what a wide and enlightened field the system has been appreciated.

So impressed is Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., by the merits of this wonderful system that arrangements have been made whereby *T.P.'s Weekly* is able to offer the complete course to all who wish to succeed in life at a reduction of nearly half the usual cost.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR'S BELIEF.

"We put this scheme before readers," says Mr. T. P. O'Connor in the illustrated book that you can now obtain free of cost, **"in the confident belief that we are giving them a splendid opportunity of cultivating those gifts of their minds which are the most susceptible of improvement by scientific methods. May the result be that we shall have contributed towards making many thousands of young men and young women better equipped, more efficient, and more qualified for success in those battles of life on which they have all to enter."**

THESE HAVE ALREADY ENROLLED.

Amongst those who have already accepted this great offer and enrolled for the Pelman Course at T.P.'s specially reduced terms are:—

Accountants
Agents
Architects
Army Officers
Art Students
Auctioneers
Bakers
Book-keepers
Buyers
Brass Fittings Makers
Carpenters
Cashiers
Chemists
Civil Engineers
Civil Servants
Clergymen
Clerks
Commercial Travellers
Colliery Weighers
Directors
Dispensers
Doctors
Drapers
Drapers' Assistants
Draughtsmen
Engineers
Engineering Students
Farmers
Financiers
Foremen
Fruit Growers
Fruit Shippers
Government Marine Surveyors
Grocers
House Furnishers
Joiners
Journalists
Law Students
Lecturers
Managers
Manufacturers
Mechanics
Medical Students
Merchants
Nurses
Pattern-makers
Pawnbrokers
Railway Inspectors
Rate Collectors
Reporters
Salesmen
Sales Managers
Science Masters
Secretaries
Soldiers
Solicitors
Shipping Agents
Shopkeepers
Shop Assistants
Steel Works Managers
Storekeepers
Students
Surgeons
Surveyors
Teachers
Tutors
Typists
Undergraduates
Warehousemen
Weavers
Woolcombers
Writers

DEVELOPS THESE SUCCESS-WINNING POWERS.

Write for a copy of the Free Book, describing this great offer to-day.

It will be posted to you by return, gratis and post free.

It shows how you can

Develop a Perfect Memory,
Diminish Mind Wandering,

and strengthen and develop your—

—Concentration,	**—Organising Power,**
—Managerial Capacity,	**—Decision,**
—Initiative,	**—Will,**
—Resource,	**—Business Tact,**
—Driving Power,	**—Personal Magnetism,**
—Originality,	**—Enthusiasm and Energy,**
—Idealism,	**—Self-Confidence,**
—Judgment,	**—Speaking Powers.**
—Creative Ability,	**—Mental Mastery.**

by means of a pleasant-to-follow system which only takes you a few minutes a day, or a couple of hours a week, to practise, master and turn to personally practical use

GREAT DEMAND FOR THE MIND TRAINED.

You will be surprised and delighted at the great increase of power that follows on taking this course—indeed, whilst actually taking it. It develops "push" and "grit" and that fearless ambition and conquering energy which will carry you on irresistibly on the full tide of success. For the Pelman-trained man is the man who "gets things done" and who "gets on" despite every obstacle and difficulty.

SPLENDID SUMMER SPARE-TIME OPPORTUNITY.

Write to-day, then for a free copy of the book describing this great summer spare-time opportunity, which will enable you to make more money by the time the autumn comes around.

The first edition of the book is out of print. The second edition is now ready and copies are being eagerly applied for. To secure your free copy you should use the following coupon to-day. By return you will receive gratis and post-free, a copy of this book, giving full particulars of "T. P.'s" Great Offer of the Pelman Course at a reduction of nearly half the usual cost, and containing other information which will show you how during the months of summer you can so improve your mental powers that by the autumn you will be able to gain a much higher position and earn much more money, because of your enormously increased efficiency and mental power.

The address to post this coupon is—

THE MANAGER, *T.P.'s Weekly*, 29, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.

"FREE BOOK" COUPON.

To the MANAGER, *T.P.'s Weekly*,
29, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.

I should like to receive gratis and post free a copy of the illustrated book describing—

1. T.P.'s great offer of the Pelman Mind and Memory Training Course at a remission of nearly half the usual fees.
2. Special article by Mr. T. P. O'Connor.
3. Letters and experiences of men and women who have taken the course.
4. Enrolment form for my use should I decide to accept your offer.

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....
J.B. 21.6.13.
.....

OCCUPATION .....

On signing and sending this coupon to the offices of "T.P.'s Weekly," you become entitled, free of obligation, to receive the Pelman Course at specially reduced fees, should you decide to accept our offer after reading the Free Book that will be sent you.

ARE ENGLISHMEN COWARDS?

IMPERIAL FLAG-WAGGING CROWD EASILY TERRORISED.

Whether it was the "darned mounseer" or the "Roosian," the Early Victorian knew he could tackle three of them single-handed, and his invincible self-confidence gave him the dogged determination for which he used to be famous.

In civil life the same high standard of national pride prevailed. Men gave and took hard knocks as part of the rough and tumble of life, and no one counted himself heroic. Nowadays what do we find? The picture papers nauseate us every morning with photographs of clap-trap "heroes." Actions which ought to be performed by any man not a chicken-hearted poltroon are magnified into "magnificent heroism," and the whole nation is cheapened by the fulsome gush of penny-a-liners with no sense of proportion. If the simple performance of one's obvious duty is acclaimed as heroism, what shall we call the neglect of such duty? The daily piffiemongers never call it cowardice. They know nothing between these extremes, and the absence of any middle course is robbing the nation of its backbone.

TO POINT A MORAL.

Some hours before midnight a short while ago, a robbery took place at a house in a south western suburb during the temporary absence of the residents. There were two burglars, and a policeman caught one of them with little or no trouble. The other arrived, however, and beat the officer into insensibility with a piece of iron piping. Leaving the policeman a helpless mass, the robbers escaped into the next garden, where a lady with commendable pluck managed to seize one for a second, only to be violently shaken off. There must have been considerable noise during this time, and no doubt the unfortunate and dutiful policeman blew his whistle, as we read that "a crowd gathered at the top of the lane." The burglars dashed at them, and the crowd parted, and—let them through! Presumably the terrible cracksmen shouted "Boo!" and the gallant band scattered like frightened sheep.

Two men—to their credit be it said—had the self-respect to chase one of the flying thieves into a cul-de-sac, where he turned at bay, fought his way with the piece of iron piping past both of his pursuers, and escaped.

Without wishing to judge harshly, one wonders what the male neighbours were doing during all the hubbub. The constable's whistle must have been heard; it is safe to assume that the courageous lady screamed when she encountered the thieves over her garden wall; and there is no doubt that the whole street was raised. The presence of the crowd proves that. The road consists of small middle-class villas; and that fact and the time of the nefarious entry go to show that the robbers were not the terrible awe-inspiring, blood-thirsty burglars of the popular imagination. No expert professional cracksman would risk his liberty in wasting his talents on such property. It was not really late, and the majority of the people were up and about. There was no two-o'clock-in-the-morning courage required on the part of the residents.

Yet the burglars got clean away!

The only persons to whom any credit is due are the courageous constable (who did his duty like a man), the plucky lady next door, and the two men who ineffectually went in pursuit. The crowd (presumably huddled together for safety) and the male residents who heard but did not heed the hubbub have nothing to be proud of.

"BY JINGO, IF WE DO!"

Ironically enough, two or three days afterwards this gallant band, with thousands of others, were celebrating Empire Day! The crowd that scattered like sheep before the two fleeing sneak-thieves no doubt did their share of penny-flag-wagging and prided themselves on their sense of Empire, while they invited the "foreigner" to come on!

In spite of its element of humour, such an incident makes one reflect bitterly on modern cowardice. The Early Victorian called "Stop thief!" and the malefactor was usually stopped very suddenly. The most suitable modern cry would appear to be "'Ware thief!"

There is too much blatant publicity for the nation to cherish its old ideals. Cowardice is simply a form of self-consciousness, and the less we tell each other what fine Imperial fellows we are, the more shall we realise that an Empire's strength depends upon the individual courage of its people.

A Fountain Pen for every Reader.

A DUAL ROLE.

MR. HENDERSON, THE "CITIZEN," AND THE IRON FOUNDERS.

In the last report, down to December 12th, of the Friendly Society of Iron Founders, we find the following paragraph:—

> We have not escaped the tribunal of the Courts this year, but are pleased to report that we came out without a stain upon our character. One of our members sought to obtain an interlocutory injunction restraining us from using funds for political purposes. Long before this trial was forced upon us we had put everything in order according to law, and upon dismissing the action with costs we were termed by the judge as an honest trade union.

The action referred to was, we conjecture, concerned with the "Parliamentary Fund Account"—for which during the year £749 17s. 7d. was raised—but, strangely enough, the immediately succeeding paragraph states:—

> The advent of a real live paper as an organ and mouthpiece of the Trade Union and Labour movements has induced you to further invest some £500 in shares, and on the whole the paper, we think, goes a long way to meet our general requirements. We wish it every success, and urge all our members to read and support it and learn our side of life's tumult.

We think that the officials—although they doubtless deserve the judge's encomium on their honesty—have been led by the result of the case to which they refer to apply part of the funds in a legally indefensible way. The number of members of the Union is 22,450; on the important question whether a further contribution should be given from the General Funds, equivalent to a shilling per member for three years—which would mean a sum of £3,000—less than half balloted, there being 7,055 in favour and 3,983 against. The result may be attributable to the fact that the levy has received the undisguised and emphatic support of the members of the Council, but our information is that in some of the shops where members are employed no voting papers were received. The £3,000 which is thus to be put to great hazard can ill be spared by the Union, for its Reserve Fund is none too large, in view of the heavy draining which it naturally has to withstand to meet the superannuation demands. We would very seriously put it to Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P.,—who, besides being the Hon. President of the Union, is Vice-Chairman of the *Daily Citizen* Company—that before embarking upon this very risky gamble with the hard-earned shillings of the poor iron founders, in support of a journal which they do not really want (£100,000 has already been lost in bolstering up a journal which, if only a quarter of the Trade Unionists would buy it, would be more than self-supporting), he should take the best legal advice as to the power of the minority of members to compel their fellows to burden themselves in this way. Once any further substantial amount is paid over, it may be very difficult to get a refund in the event of the Courts deciding—as there is reason to believe they would—that it is *ultra vires* of the Union to be financially interested in such a commercial speculation.

TALE-TELLING TOUTS.

JUDGE ON ABSENT AGENTS AND CRAFTY CONTRACTS.

Alexander and Co., of Manchester, sell gramophones. A few days ago they sued in the Blackburn County Court a man named Gabbutt. The defendant stated that an agent called at his house and asked him if he wanted to buy a talking-machine. After a tune or two, the tout said that the machine could be had on trial for a month, and if it was not approved, it could be returned. Defendant then signed a contract which he did not read. When he wished to return the machine the firm would not take it back. The Judge, after perusing the contract, remarked that it was misleading, because it indicated the loan of a gramophone, and afterwards showed that 52 records had to be purchased. He further commented on the conduct of the canvassers, and, as Alexander did not dare to put any of them in the witness-box, gave judgment for the defendant. Two other cases of a similar nature were down for hearing, but the plaintiffs withdrew them. Judge Sturges, K.C., has set an example that might very well be followed by other County Court Judges.

See Our Great Offer on page 913.

GRAVES CYCLES

The most healthful and delightful way of viewing lovely scenery is on a high-quality, easy-running cycle. At a trifling expense, with no mechanical worries, and in perfect comfort and freedom, you may visit the beauty spots of the British Isles and enjoy the most exhilarating form of recreation which human ingenuity has ever devised. The Graves Cycle is ideal for Touring. Everything which goes to the building of a perfect cycle has been put into the Graves Machine.

NEVER BEFORE has been offered such a graceful, rigid machine at such a low price; never before such remarkable value; never before has been arranged such extraordinarily easy terms for such a suberb machine. **Our low, competitive prices,** and our wonderfully simple Easy Payment Plan make the healthful invigorating delights of cycling accessible to everyone. **The Graves Cycle** if required for business use, soon covers its cost in the saving of train and tram fares, to say nothing of the saving of time which would otherwise be lost in walking or waiting for trains. We have enlisted the support of the foremost manufacturers in the trade, and as will be seen from our specification the components which go to make the complete **Graves Cycle** are supplied by makers of world-wide renown in the Cycle industry.

FOR **10/-** WITH ORDER.

Machine packed, crated and delivered Carriage Paid to approved orders.

WE DELIVER the **Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe**, exactly to specification (Lady's or Gent's), Carriage Paid to all approved orders, for **10/-** Now, and Easy Monthly Payments after delivery until account is cleared. **The Graves Guarantee** for **10** Years is behind the machine. Fullest approval allowed, and unless you are perfectly satisfied after full examination in your own home, we will instantly refund your money in full without discussion.

WHEREVER YOU LIVE you need not have the least hesitation in entrusting us with your order, as it is a firm rule in all Graves transactions for each order to be executed subject to the goods being considered entirely satisfactory after delivery and full examination. It should therefore be clearly understood that merely sending your order and remittance commits you to nothing whatever, unless you are perfectly satisfied with the machine after examination and trial, and decide to keep it.

THE WORLD'S BEST SPECIFICATION:

REYNOLDS
WELDLESS STEEL TUBING

DUNLOP
FIRST GRADE 28-IN TYRES

PHILLIPS
DE LUXE RAT-TRAP OR RUBBER PEDALS

STURMEY-ARCHER
THREE-SPEED GEAR

HANS RENOLD
TWIN ROLLER CHAIN

PHILLIPS
YOKE AND HINGE BRAKES

BROOKS
B75 PLATED SPRING SADDLE

WILLIAMS
PATENT CHAIN WHEEL AND CRANKS

HOFFMANNS'
PATENT STEEL BALLS

DOVER
HANDLE GRIPS & LEVER TIPS

WRITE TO-DAY FOR CATALOGUE

A Post Card will bring you per return our handsome Cycle Catalogue, which exhibits a full range of standard models with detailed specifications, and full particulars of our convenient and equitable easy payment system. Wherever you live you may profit by our Trade Challenging Offer, and enjoy the convenience of our Easy purchase terms. It costs you nothing to secure this interesting and practical book. It puts you in the way of saving pounds, and gives you a mass of useful information which puts you on the inside track as regards Cycle quality and value, and enables you to take full advantage of the enormous improvements which manufacturing developments have rendered possible. All you need do to obtain a copy of this handsome book is to send us your name and full postal address, and the catalogue will be despatched per return post.

J. G. GRAVES LTD.
SHEFFIELD.

WARRANTED 10 YEARS.

LABOURER OR TRAMP?

EXCHANGES DRIVING MEN FROM PILLAR TO POST.

We are afraid that the Labour Bureaus are a very good thing for the master, but a doubtful blessing for the unemployed. The employer of labour would now scarcely know what to do without them. If he requires extra "hands," all that is necessary is to ring up the Exchange and he has them at once. Should a workman become discontented or plead for more wages and shorter hours, he is threatened by some employers with the Exchange. But what of the employee? We have evidence of men attending these Exchanges for months without obtaining work—and, what is even worse, we know of men who have been sent after situations that they have no earthly chance of obtaining.

Letters of complaint we have by the score, and some of them are of a heartrending character. We also get many personal visits from men with legitimate grievances. Here is an example: A casual labourer called upon us and complained of being "fooled" by the Manager of the Labour Exchange, Edgware Road. He informed us that he had been sent after a job at Fulham, a distance of three miles, which, of course, he had to walk. When he got there the place was filled. The Fulham Exchange would not recognise the man, as he was registered at Edgware Road; so he had to trudge all the way back again in order to see if there were any other "vacancies." This walk was done on an empty stomach. Upon getting back to Edgware Road, he was informed that the Aldwych Labour Exchange had just telephoned through for a man—so, refreshed by the hope of getting a job, the out-of-work trudged another couple of miles. Upon arriving at Aldwych the clerk in charge politely told him that the vacancy had been filled. The man—possibly glad to sit down and express himself freely—as we were in the neighbourhood, called and told us the story. This we placed before the proper authorities, and the following is their reply:—

> With reference to your letter addressed to the Manager of the Kilburn Labour Exchange, I am directed by the Board of Trade to state that they have no power to make any payments in the circumstances mentioned. Managers are instructed to take every precaution in their power to save men from fruitless journeys, but it clearly is not possible in the case of vacancies for which men are required at once for a Labour Exchange to guarantee that an applicant journeying from a neighbouring Exchange will find the vacancy still open on his arrival.
>
> The inconvenience to which the applicant was subjected in the present case is regretted.

The employer who sends for men on approval should at least pay their fares. Suppose these unemployed human beings were dogs, we wonder what the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would have to say? The present system seems to be excellent for turning out-of-works into tramps, but we thought the Labour Exchanges were ostensibly formed to lessen the number of knights of the road.

WILL THE FOREIGN OFFICE MOVE?

UNTRIED BRITISH SUBJECTS IN ARGENTINE PRISON.

Here is a case, brought to our notice from the Argentine, which surely should receive the immediate attention of the Foreign Office. In August last five seamen serving on one of the Nelson Line boats, the *Highland Laddie*, were arrested at Buenos Ayres for stealing goods out of the cargo. At the moment, we are not concerned as to whether these men were guilty of the theft or not—although they one and all affirm their innocence—the main point is that they have had no opportunity of hearing any evidence against them, they, indeed, asserting that without any trial at all they have been sentenced to five years' imprisonment! One of the prisoners is but a lad of 18 years of age. All the facts of the case, as represented to us, are at the disposal of the Foreign Office or any member of Parliament. There should be no delay in a matter of this sort. It is a pity that the owners could not have brought the men home and have proceeded against them in the British Courts, where they would have obtained unquestionable justice. Possibly, however, International Law prohibited this course.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLI.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

PLEA FOR A POOR GENTLEWOMAN

"So far as it is possible, we deal with all kinds of hard cases in this column. Poverty, like disease, has several forms. The majority of the cases we bring before our readers are of the chronic type; occasionally we deal with the acute. Here is one of the latter variety. We will let the lady speak for herself:—

> I am connected with several well-known people, among them my uncle, the late Professor ——. In fact, all my relations were professional people—doctors, &c.—but somehow among those who remain it is looked upon as a crime to be badly off.
>
> Fourteen years ago I was married, and we have four little children, the eldest a boy of 12, who, for the past eight years, has been a hopeless invalid—bright and intelligent, but, owing to a disease of the spinal cord, unable to walk or even stand.
>
> For the past eight years misfortune has dogged our steps. During this period I endeavoured to help to tide things over. Among things I was proficient in was verbatim reporting. For some years, too, I revised and put into book form Dr. ——'s sermons. Most of this work, however, I had to do during the small hours of the morning, after I had finished with our little family and our invalid boy.
>
> During this time my husband was working up all the business he could, having previously had a commercial catastrophe; but the concern he had worked up he was persuaded, almost 18 months ago, to forgo under an agreement to act as secretary, &c., to a public company. Last Christmas, however, the directors put the company into liquidation. Since that time we have been hopelessly landed. Owing to ill-health, my work has gone. Our landlord has agreed to let the rent stand over if we give him possession on Tuesday week—which it seems almost impossible for us to do. One reason I wrote to you was that you have interested yourself in the matter of the different systems of shorthand, and for a very long time I have had it greatly on my mind that if I could get a little help in making the matter known by advertisement, recommendation, &c., I could get a number of correspondence pupils for my system—Improved Taylor's. I feel that if I can keep things going, my husband, who is only just over 40 and a thorough business man, well up in company work, auditing, &c., would have a chance, with a little help, of turning round. For the little children's sake I have written this, painful as it is for me to do so.

From our special fund we have sent the lady £5. The rest we leave to our readers.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXLVII.—"Dsond," 2s. 6d.

CCXLVIII.—C. O. R., 5s.; Mrs. S. F., 25s.; P. A. P., parcel; S. J., 2s. 6d.;

CCXLIX.—A. D., 10s.; A. W. M., 5s.; "Only a Poor Musician," 1s.; "Ladysmith," 3d.; "Bullets No. 33," 6d.; A. L., 1s.; F. G., 3s. 6d.; "Meriteamedity Benefit," 1s.; J. E., 21s.; E. M. H., 3d.

CCL.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; "Mistake," 6d.; W. H., 2s. 6d.; "Pilot H.R.," 2s. 6d.; W. G. C., 2s.; E., 1s.

Mr. Jas. H. Stewart, the winner of the £500 in our 34th "Bullets" Competition, has kindly sent us £5, which we have much pleasure in distributing equally between Nos. CCXLI., CCXLII., CCXLIII., CCXLIV., and CCL.

Of the donations kindly given by previous "Bullets" winners, £3 has been allotted to CCL., and £5 to CCLI.

We have this week apportioned £10 from the "JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund" as follows:—CCXXX., £1; CCXXXIV., £2; CCXXXV., £2; CCXXXVI., £3; and CCXXXIX., £2.

We have also much pleasure in acknowledging the following sums of money on behalf of the poor girl referred to in our issue of June 7th, under the heading of "The White Scourge":—"Glasgow," 10s.; "Sufferer," 2s. 6d.

Let "Bullets" Pay for Your Holidays. More £5 Notes Offered.

POLICE & TAILORS

What is said about well-known Clothing Firm.

For months past the enterprising firm of tailors, Messrs. H. Thomas and Co., 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., have offered a remarkable bargain to "John Bull" readers—viz., a gent's complete suit made to measure from really good materials, in up-to-date designs, for only 15s. 6d. The offer is made only to "John Bull" readers and money is refunded if entire satisfaction is not given. Those who still have doubts respecting the offer should note that evidence of their straight dealing is given in a letter received from Mr. C. Scott, British Municipal Police, Hankow, China, who writes:—

"Thank you for your prompt execution of my order for 60 gents' suits. I am more than satisfied with the quality, workmanship of the suits, and think it is really marvellous how you can put them out at the money."

All readers requiring really smart business suits at 15s. 6d., 19s. 6d., 23s. 6d., or 30s. should send postcard for free patterns as offer underneath.

A COMPLETE, UP-TO-DATE,

GENT'S SUIT 15/6

ADVERTISING OFFER TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

We realise that to make you a customer we must go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a stylish, well-tailored Complete Suit for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—to measure, too, remember. Other prices 19s. 6d., 23s. 6d., up to 40s.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an advertising offer absolutely, and send us to-day merely a postcard for large range of patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. The materials will bear the closest scrutiny—then we fit you to your satisfaction or refund money. Why say more? Can we do more? Mention "John Bull" for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & Co., 142, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.

OUR ADVICE.

We hear a lot nowadays about the scarcity of men who are capable of earning as much as £5 a week and the struggle for existence of the thousands of men who are not able to demand more than 30s a week to keep their wives and families.

Although in a few cases "bad luck" may be the reason, there is no disguising the fact that every man has his future in his own hands, more or less, and it is the man who realises this fact that is constantly on the look-out for opportunities for safeguarding himself against unemployment and for improving his present wage by making himself worth more money to either his present employer or a fresh one. No matter what his present occupation is, he is the kind of man who says to himself, "I will lose no time in fitting myself to enter the Motor Industry, which is now in its infancy, and which offers by far the best chances to smart men, and I will call or write at once to the Motor Industry's training centre:—The British School of Motoring, Coventry House, 5 and 6, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W (opposite the Prince of Wales Theatre, near Leicester Square), for their Free Illustrated Prospectus (J) on how to obtain instruction in Practical Motoring and how to get a berth in the Motor Industry."

This is the kind of man who succeeds—he does not rely upon his present job or trade; he sees that he has two strings to his bow. He is the smart man—are you one also?

Quality Rules Price

even in Dry-Cleaning and Dyeing. Our charges may be slightly higher than are quoted elsewhere, but when the values are compared, it will be found that our prices are really low in comparison. When you have a suit which is not worn out, but has become soiled, stained or creased—

SEND it to JOHNSONS'

to be treated by their Patent Process, because:

1. They extract ALL the dust and dirt with which the fabric is impregnated.
2. Every spot and stain is eradicated, shininess is removed, and the fabric is restored to its original appearance and looks "Just like New."
3. Suits ordered to be dyed are first dry-cleaned, and the vest and sleeve linings are removed to avoid any "dyed" appearance.
4. The garments will be returned beautifully finished and tailor pressed.

Suits Cleaned, 4/6 Dyed, 7/-

Ladies' Blouses, Dresses, Gloves, also treated with equal care and effective ness. Send for Price List H, and full list of Branches.

JOHNSON BROS.
Bootle Dye Works :: LIVERPOOL

Like the Iceberg — cool.

Captain Scott CIGARETTES

are guaranteed **HAND MADE**, and of the finest Virginian Tobacco obtainable. They are **ABSOLUTELY PURE**, they smoke cool always, and will please the palate of the most particular smoker. Only the purest paper is used for wrapping. Try them to-day. The value is in the Cigarettes—not in the Box.

20 for 9d.
10 for 4½d.

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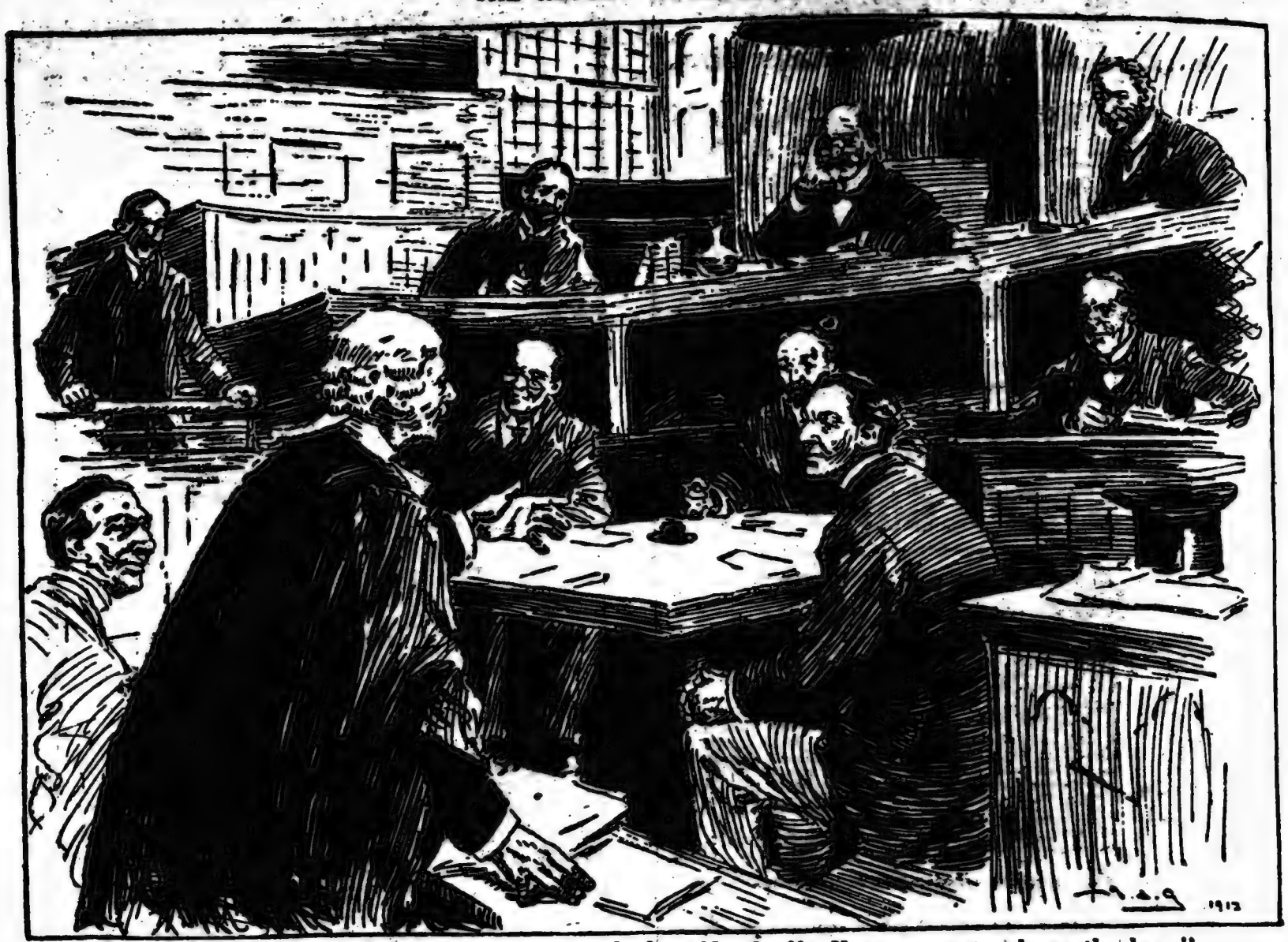

GREAT UNPAID: "I rule that you cannot ask that, Mr. Stuff. You cannot teach *me* the law."
COUNSEL: "I agree, your Worship."

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

1ST WORKMAN: I see they're shovin' the Mental Deficiency Bill through Committee, mate. I reckon it'll be pawsed this Session.

2ND WORKMAN: Goo' job too.

1ST WORKMAN: Wot? Jew believe in it?

2ND WORKMAN: Corse I believe in it.

1ST WORKMAN: W'y?

2ND WORKMAN: It'll put *you* outer the way fur a stawt.

1ST WORKMAN: I s'pose you think thet's funny?

2ND WORKMAN: No; it ain't funny. It's a blinkin' fack.

1ST WORKMAN: I ain't got no more right ter be put away than you 'ave, mate. I reckon my brain box is as sarnd as yourn, if not sarnder.

2ND WORKMAN: Himberceles an' loonies allus think they're sane.

1ST WORKMAN: Wot's the idea? Jew meanter serggest I've got a screw loose?

2ND WORKMAN: It don't want no serggestin'. 'Oo jew vote fur lawst Fursday?

1ST WORKMAN: 'Avelock Wilson, o' corse.

2ND WORKMAN: I know. Young Alf told me. You must 'ave bin clean orf yore napper.

1ST WORKMAN: You're torkin' silly nar. Jew fink I'd vote fur a blinkin' Jew?

2ND WORKMAN: W'y not? Better'n votin' fur this rotten Guv'ment, ain't it?

1ST WORKMAN: I dunno ser much. I've allus voted Radical, an' I allus shall.

2ND WORKMAN: There you aw. W'ere yer blinkin' brains? Wot the 'ell 'as the Guv'ment done fur you? Wot's the Laber Pawty done fur you an' me? Awnser me that.

1ST WORKMAN: Good deal more'n the Tories ever did.

2ND WORKMAN: I dunno ser much. Wot erbart Employers' Liability? They brought thet in, didn't they?

1ST WORKMAN: Wot erbart Old Age Pensions?

2ND WORKMAN: Well, wot erbart it? You'll be dead afore you git yorn.

1ST WORKMAN: An' wot erbart the Inshorance Act?

2ND WORKMAN: Yuss; wot erbart it? 'Ow jew like 'avin' yer 'ard earned wages docked hevery week? 'Ave you 'ad yore ninepence fur fourpence yet?

1ST WORKMAN: P'reps I 'aven't.

2ND WORKMAN: 'Ave you 'ad yer rare an' refreshin' froot?

1ST WORKMAN: Clever, ain't yer?

2ND WORKMAN: 'Ow'd yer like bein' numbered on a blinkin' card like a blinkin' moter caw, an' 'avin' ter go to a blinkin' panel docter wot ain't got time ter look at yer tongue? 'Ow jer like payin' fourpence a week fur thet?

1ST WORKMAN: Enny 'ow, it does somebody a bit o' good, I s'pose.

2ND WORKMAN: Corse it do. But 'oo? W'y, tharsands of officials, gittin' good wages outer our fourpences!

1ST WORKMAN: Enny 'ow, it wos pawsed by a Radical Guv'ment, so I stands by it, good or bad.

2ND WORKMAN: There you aw. I told jer you'd come under the Mental Deficiency Bill. An' quite right too. A man 'oo'll 'old by enny blinkin' thing jest becos it's brought in by a Radical Guv'ment, an' 'is fawther wos a Radical afore 'im, ain't prop'ly sane. 'E oughter be in a mad'ouse. Thet's w'y I ain't opposin' this 'ere Mental Deficiency Bill. Cos if it works prop'ly it'll put every blinkin' pawty politician inter the 'sylum. Wot's this—Wandsworth? Good-night, mate. Don't work yer brain too 'ard readin' the *Star* ter-night.

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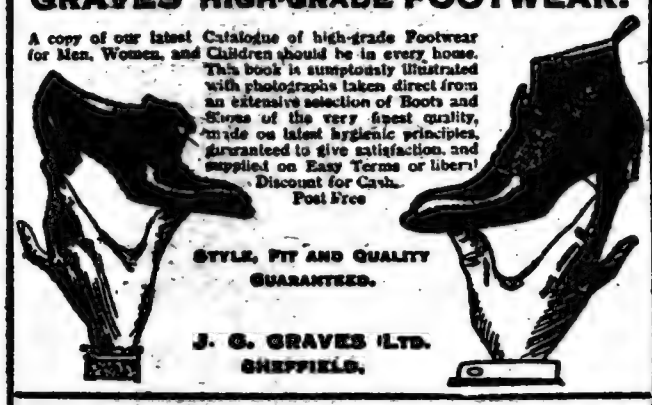

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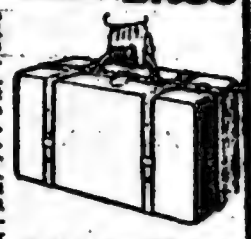

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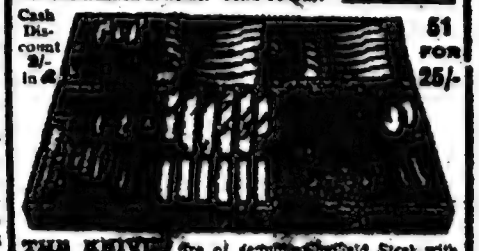

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Please say if Light or Dark Patterns are preferred.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, M.P.

DEAR PREMIER,—Why on earth did you compromise Mr. Pearce's Bill for the extension of polling hours? In its original form the measure would have been hailed with satisfaction throughout the country, but at the biddling of a few Tory members, who were only "pulling your leg," you tamely agreed that it should not apply to municipal elections, and thus deprived it of three-fourths of its usefulness. Why this sad falling away? Are you so very tired?

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P.

DEAR "F. E.,"—I gather that you are a Knight Imperial of the Primrose League, and I observe that your fellow Knights recently entertained you to dinner. Your post-prandial ovation was a thing of beauty, exquisite in its delicacy of touch, and instinct with ineffable tact. Evidently you have not quite made up your mind upon the land question. Is it possible that you can be contemplating a little extravaganza of your own? What a joke it would be, and wouldn't Lloyd George be mad! You had ever a pretty wit and, methinks, the idea might appeal to you. My love to Winston. *Au revoir!*

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. J. C. Winslow, St. Augustine's College, Canterbury.

REVEREND SIR,—I observe that you have had a strange and a weird experience. You recently visited a foreign cemetery, and pausing by a certain grave, your olfactory organs were assailed by a powerful odour of violets. Looking down you noticed that the mound was covered with the flower, and that countless tiny blooms were thrusting themselves upwards to the light. Stooping low, the better to enjoy their fragrant perfume, you found that the frail flowers had no corporeal existence, but were rather the "fleeting fabric of a vision," and so you are convinced that a miracle has been performed for your behoof and that you have seen a "ghost flower"—a sort of vegetable denizen of the would that is unseen.

I refrain from comment upon your eerie tale. You are worthy to rank with Father Vaughan and the Bishop of London in a sacred triumvirate of clerical *raconteurs*.

JOHN BULL.

To C. E. F. Copeman, Esq., Town Clerk, Wisbech.

DEAR MR. TOWN CLERK,—I thank you for your recent letter in which, "on behalf of the Wisbech Town Council," you inform me, in reply to my solicitous inquiry, that "it is unnecessary for them to reconcile their prosecution of Sunday traders with the decision to open the public baths on Sundays, for the very simple reason that the former has nothing to do with them, the police being under the control of the County Council." Without any reservation whatever, I agree with you as to the simplicity of the reason. It is so simple that I have had to ask myself whether you think I am simple enough to believe it, or whether I ought to think you simple enough to believe it. I am, however, faced with the difficulty of conceiving that the consent of the Chief Constable or of the justices would have been sought, or that the county police authority would have put upon the Police Constable the duty of initiating these unpopular puritanical prosecutions without communication with, or against the desire of, the Borough Council of Wisbech or some of its members. I do not say it is not so, Mr. Town Clerk, but if it be so it is so extraordinary a proceeding, so overbearing and so intolerant a flaunt of super-authority, that I shall be interested to know what was done by the Borough Council, who were opening their baths and taking money by means of Sunday labour, to oppose and prevent it. I am too familiar with the sight of one public authority hiding itself behind another to attach much importance to a mere statement of overlapping jurisdiction. The gravamen of the business is as I have stated it. For the Town Council to sit down and say nothing, dumb as mutes and inert as stones, while these Sunday trading prosecutions, evidently not demanded by the community they represent, are going on is, in my opinion, to share responsibility for them.

JOHN BULL.

To J. F. W. Deacon, Esq., D.L. (Chairman); Capt. J. Hay Ruxton; Surg.-General Planck; J. Hopkins, Esq.; W. Baldwin, Esq.; A. P. W. Johnson, Esq.; G. W. Gordon, Esq.; G. Paine, Esq.; and T. A. Wimshurst, Esq., Magistrates, Tonbridge.

GENTLEMEN,—This is to praise you. Your decision in what was really a persecution, and a senseless one at that, of the man Stanley for not sending his child to school, will probably assist in teaching the official responsible for it that the Education Act wasn't passed to be an instrument of oppression and hardship to the poor. The lad in this case has suffered from appendicitis, he has been ailing ever since; he is tuberculous, a doctor has declared him unfit to attend school, and he is receiving adequate instruction from certificated teachers at home. That the Education Committee should permit such an unconscionable misuse of their powers is not at all creditable to them, and my purpose is heartily to congratulate you on dismissing the summons with the mild but caustic remark of your Chairman that "these proceedings are stretching the Education Act too far."

Only the other day, I was reading the case of a Rhyl widow. "I have a house full of children, and there's nobody but me to mind and keep them," she pleaded when summoned before the Education Committee. The magistrates had already sentenced the woman's eldest lad—the only child capable of helping her—to five years in an industrial school for the first offence of stealing a penny cabbage while she was in hospital; now that she has to work for food and shelter for her bairns the Rhyl Education Committee are bullying her with threats of prosecution because she has sometimes to keep one of them at home as little mother to take care of her two babies during her absences. If compulsory attendance is to be forced on the poor in this penal way, I trust you will agree with me that the Education Act ought to be amended to meet such cases in a spirit of humane common sense, and that, meanwhile, magistrates should turn a blind eye on them. Important as it is, "education" is no sort of diet for a child's belly.

JOHN BULL.

To Signor Colarossi, Feltham, Middlesex.

DEAR 'OSSI,—May I venture to hope that Art, for whom you have done so much in her hours of need, will not neglect to sweeten the days of your retirement, at 75, poor and broken, from that trade of painter's model which has made your name renowned in the studios of Europe? What many of the artists would have done without you I know not. You are the *bas relief* of the Victoria Memorial, the sailor in the Boyhood of Raleigh, the drapery of the Prince Albert statue, and the Red Indian in the Tate Gallery. You have been St. George Fighting the Dragon, St. Stephen Suffering Martyrdom, and one of the horrible catastrophes in When the Sea Gives Up Its Dead, as well as other paint, too thick to mention. My candid opinion, 'Ossi, is that if you had been alive at the time you would also have been the £80,000 Venus in the National Gallery, for, as a model, you were equal to most things in the heavens above and the earth beneath, and probably in the waters under the earth. Anyhow, I send you the best of all good wishes in the hope that Art will forward to you all she has collected by sending round her hat.

JOHN BULL.

Lord Robert Cecil, M.P., House of Commons.

Sorry you told Canterbury Diocesan Conference that "there could not be any question as to the ineligibility of women for the episcopate and priesthood." Why not? They look nice in lawn sleeves, and every husband knows they can make preaching effective.

BULL.

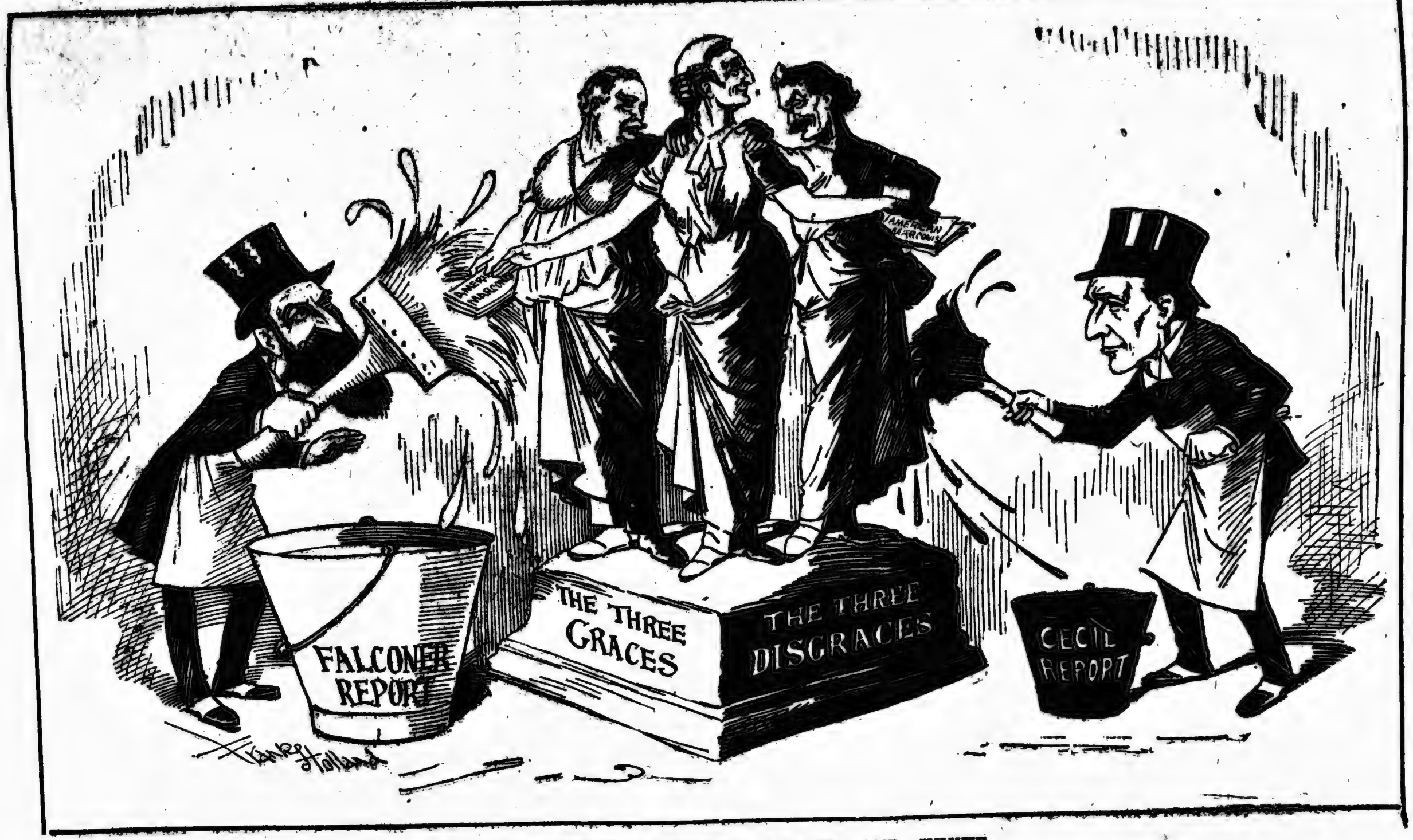
Felix Mulholland, Magheralelt, Ireland.

Notice you have been fined £1 and costs at Petty Sessions for cursing the Pope, the police, the Army, the Navy, the Hibernians, and the buttons on a policeman's coat. You really ought to have been fined another sovereign for forgetting to include Lloyd George.

BULL.

"Bullets" Booming! Prizes AGAIN Increased this week.

"PARTY PAINT."



A MARCONI STUDY IN BLACK AND WHITE.

HOW I COMMENCED.

LIFE STORIES OF EMINENT MEN AND WOMEN.

BY "RETLAW."

LORD MURRAY.

In view of the intense public curiosity that has been excited by the disclosure of my secret deal in Marconi shares (other than that in which Lloyd George, Rufus Isaacs and myself mutually participated), it has occurred to me that some further particulars of my past life would not be without interest for the readers of JOHN BULL. I have therefore drawn up the following short account for publication, trusting that its perusal will rehabilitate me in the eyes of some of my late Radical friends whose suspicions have been aroused by my absence and continued silence.

I was born in the year 1870, my father being the first Viscount Elibank, who, knowing a thing or two about the Scottish temperament, and desiring to preserve me as far as possible from its infection, sent me to Cheltenham for my education, instead of trusting me to the tender mercies of Scottish pedagogues. For this act of fatherly consideration I can never bless his memory enough.

However, finding it impossible to sever completely the family's connection with Scotland, it was decided that I should make the best of a bad job and endeavour to enter Parliament as a Scottish member. It thus came about that I unsuccessfully contested Edinburgh West, and Peebles and Selkirk. I assign my failure to capture either of those seats to the fact that, having been educated in England, my speeches were as unintelligible to the electors as their conversation was to me. So I gave Scotland up as a bad job for a time, and in 1900 tried, but failed, to win the City of York bye-election.

This unexpected defeat disgusted me, and drove me back to Scotland once more, where, at the earnest solicitation of my friends, I stood for the Midlothian division, which just then lacked a representative. This time, by the irony of fate, I won, and found myself launched on a political career, which, however, was destined to end with some abruptness.

Being, if I may be permitted to say so, a person of some astuteness, I found in the House of Commons a fine field for my abilities. If not, perhaps, as a speaker, at least as a tactician and intriguer, I quickly discovered that I could make rings round my colleagues on the Government benches; and they, recognising a master mind, before long appointed me Chief Government Whip.

In that capacity I won a very considerable reputation. Even my political opponents were fain to admit that they could not extract very much change from the Master of Elibank. Unfortunately a time came when this, instead of being a figurative expression, became a literal fact. The financial fortunes of my house commenced to cause me grave anxiety, and it presently became unpleasantly plain that I must give up political life and devote all my attention to private affairs, else—well, there you are! I therefore retired, and was rewarded for my party services by a seat in the House of Lords.

Meanwhile, there was that little Marconi affair. Sir Rufus Isaacs, having got the wheeze from his brother Godfrey, and being a man of unselfish character, let Lloyd George and me into the "know," and George and I had an exciting little deal in Marconis, on the strict q.t., mind you. For—well, it would not have done for the general public to know that some of His Majesty's ministers were dabbling in Stock Exchange transactions of that particular character. So we lay low and said nuffin, even when questions were asked in the House of Commons.

Seeing there was money in it, I had a further deal on my lonesome, not saying a word to George in case he should want to come in too. Then I got my present job with Lord Cowdray, and started off to South America. And that's about all. So it will be seen that—although my silence and absence may have seemed mysterious, if not actually suspicious—like the tale of the old iron pot, there is nothing in it.

OUR ANIMATED WAXWORKS.

BY THE SHOWMAN.

'Ere y'are, ladies an' gents! 'Ere's the show for yer money! Hanimated waxworks, as large as life an' twice as nachrel! Walk up, walk up! All the celebrities, notorieties, nodobics an' somebodies of modern society on view. Step up an' see Lloyd George lickin' 'is slavey's inshorance stamp on pay day, an' 'ear 'is kind remarks faithfully recorded on the grammerphone. Come an' 'ear G. K. Chesterton sing "'Ow I envy 'im" as 'e watches 'is little brother fork out a 'undred quid for libel. Walk up, walk up! The show's just goin' to begin. Come an' watch Rufus Isaacs 'avin' a 'cart to 'eart tork with 'is brother Godfroy about Welsh gold mines, an' see Percy Illingworth 'unting round with a wireless electric torch for thirty thousand quid o' party funds wots lorst. Walk up! Now then, me lad, let the lady get pawst you, will yer? Walk up, lady! Come an' see Christabel Pank'urst doin' 'erself a treat in Paris an' 'er mother bein' fed by forcible chube in 'Olloway Goal. We've orl the latest 'ere, life size, an' makin' their nachrel movements. Don't miss the greatest treat in yer life. The chawnst won't 'appen again. Walk up, an' see the owner torkin' like a Dutch uncle to the jockey of Craganour. 'Orl you've got to do is to watch 'is lips a-movin' an' you can guess wot 'e's a-sayin'. We're showin' Eustace Miles eatin' 'is daily allowance of monkey nuts, an' 'Arry Lauder countin' 'is salary on a Sat-dy night very careful an' stowin' it away in the spleuchan of 'is sporran. You can see Marie Corelli sittin' at 'er desk bitin' 'er pen'older, and George Bernard Shore standin' on 'is 'ead. Now, walk up, ladies an' gents. There's a few seats left an' plenty of standin' room be'ind. Come an' see the hanimated waxworks in a state of nacher—I mean, o' course, lady, hingaged in their nacherel hoccupashuns. Step up an' 'ave a look at Sir Edward Carson tryin' to 'it the bull's eye with a dummy gun, an' Mr. Asqueth toein' the chalk line. We've got Bombardier Wells gittin' the knock-out from Carpentier, the French boy boxer, an' Maude Allen jumpin' erbout like a parched pea in a fryin' pan, in undress uniform. No, sir; Maude—not the pea. You're pretty sharp to-night, sir; I should think your missus gave you a stroppin' afore she let you out.

Walk up, walk up! We're jest a-goin' to begin. This is yore last chance. Don't miss it. Come an' see the Peroovian Ammerzon offishuls gittin' wot they deserve—somethin' with boilin' oil in it—and a tribe o' natives lookin' on. Mi! There's sights to be seen 'ere, my word, not 'arf! Be in time! You'll come out as pleased as a dorg with two tails. Pass along, please!

VISIONARY BOOKS REVIEWED.

BY OUR CAUSTIC CRITIC.

"THE LAW OF LIBEL." A Treatise. By Cecil Chesterton. (Beeton. 6s. 8d. net.)

The layman does not usually look to legal tomes for interest, let alone amusement, but in the book under review he will find both. The talented author, unquestionably an authority on his subject, has succeeded in producing a technical work of considerable importance.

It is a lively essay full of human interest. True, it contains a few contradictions and inconsistencies, and the list of errata printed at the end is a long one; but these add to the humour of the work. Certainly a book to be read, if not to be entirely relied upon.

* * *

"THE GAY PARISIENNE." A Novel. By Christabel Pankhurst. (Shatter and Windows. 6s.)

This is a story by one who evidently knows her Paris, not wisely, but too well. It is the tale of an English girl who callously abandons her family when in dire distress, and flys to enjoy the life and gaiety of the French capital. It is a heartless story, in which many of the things humanity holds most sacred are mocked at and reviled. It is a story, the purpose of which appears to be to pour ridicule and contempt upon the laws that govern society and preserve civilisation from apsing into chaotic savagery.

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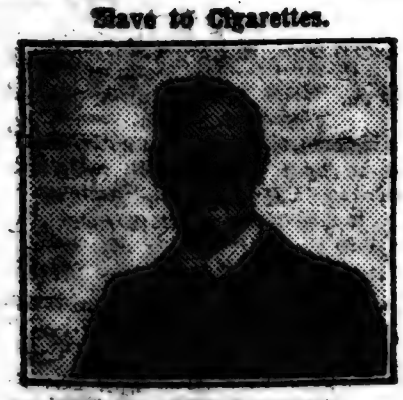

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Liverpool, writes: "I am pleased to tell you that your Treatment is all that you claim for it: after taking a few doses, smoking was reduced to a farce. Now I am entirely free from any desire to use tobacco in any form. After using cigarettes for the last 20 years it is a change for which I am very thankful."

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SUGGESTIONS FOR MORE "HONOURS."

SOME DESERVING CASES CONSIDERED.

By RICHARD MORTON.

Alexandra Day, when everybody will be either selling wild roses or wearing them, is nearly due, and it is suggested that the occasion should be marked by the bestowal of a few more "honours" upon some really deserving objects. The list of titles dealt out on the King's Birthday pleased most people, because it was as humdrum as ever; apart from one or two surprises it maintained its customary level, being flat, undistinguished, and unimportant.

Yet this seems to be the wrong way to engineer an "Honours" List. Titles should be ladled out in more picturesque style, monotony should be avoided and variety encouraged. Being, as ever, anxious to assist, and unwilling to indicate a fault without suggesting a remedy, we append some notes by way of a Supplementary List for Alexandra Day—that day being selected on the principle of "the better the day, the better the deed." Also, in honour of the day, let the claims of the ladies be first considered.

VETOES FOR WOMEN.

A peerage for Mrs. Pankhurst would be tactful and diplomatic. Should she be granted a seat in the House of Lords her aspirations would be partly gratified, while her sphere of operations would be more limited. She might "go up" as Baroness Birnam of Holloway, with remainder to her successors in tail female.

Next, if "Peter Pan" is entitled to a baronetcy, what is the due of "The Sorrows of Satan"? Miss Marie Corelli should certainly be placed among the peers she is so fond of; let her become Countess Corelli of Baconsville-upon-Avon.

Then, a lady of the stage should undoubtedly receive some token of recognition; it is not just to reserve the plums for the men only, the women folk being equally clever and distinguished—and much more picturesque. Room should be made in the list for Lady Olga Nethersole, Countess Kendal, or Lady Patrick Campbell. Should this suggestion appear too frivolous, let us be quite serious and propose—Lady Marie Lloyd.

The list of Privy Councillors might also be made more decorative. Why not include Mr. Selfridge and Sir Joseph Lyons? Each would be a unique appointment, for each is capable of giving counsel, privy or otherwise, calculated to be of use—and few Privy Councillors are equal to that. Then there is Sir Joseph Beecham, for medical advice; General Bramwell Booth, an army expert; and that fine sailor, Captain Collins, of Brighton.

Other names occur to us, such as the Rev. F. B. Meyer, Mr. Algernon Ashton, Mr. G. K. Chesterton, and Father Bernard Vaughan, the only doubt in these cases being whether the gentlemen named could keep anything "Privy" for twenty-four hours. For this reason, naturally enough, all ladies are emphatically barred.

"DUKE OF DUCATS."

In the latest list there were no new peers; this was an oversight calling for immediate correction. Let new peers be made—it is a gilt-edged way of shelving a man—and let the first peerage go to Mr. Lloyd George. Even his dearest friends would be delighted to see him in "another place." Should he decline a common barony, tempt him with a dukedom—anything to transfer the sphere of his activities to a place where they would be automatically atrophied.

Mr. Wedgwood, Mr. Booth, and Mr. King have earned promotion. And Mr. Falconer might be disposed of in similar style.

Mr. Barrie's baronetcy should be followed by other recognitions of literary merit; authors and journalists worthy of the accolade of knighthood include Mr. George R. Sims, Dr. Saleeby, Mr. Charles Garvice, and Mr. R. S. Sievier. Mr. Hall Caine must have no ordinary knighthood; let him become Marquis of Man, with three legs and no tail for his coat of arms.

The music-halls should no longer be left in the cold. Let us welcome Sir Harry Lauder and Sir Little Tich. Culture would find a worthy representative in Sir Eugene Sandow, and physics would be appropriately personified by Dr. Pink Williams or Mr. Doan.

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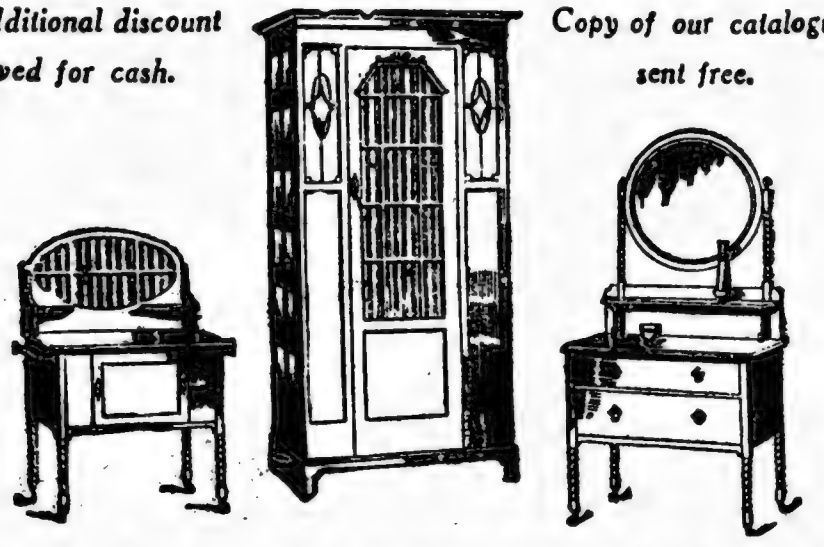

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POOR PRISONER'S DEFENCE.

There is a widespread impression that every poor prisoner is entitled to legal assistance at the hands of the State. The law confers no such absolute privilege. A prisoner who pleads "not guilty" may apply for legal aid, either to the magistrates at the time of his committal or to the judge before whom he is ultimately arraigned, but such assistance is not given "as of right," and it may be granted or withheld at the discretion of the tribunal. A prisoner who claims this assistance must disclose his defence and must satisfy the Court of the inadequacy of his means. Should his appeal be favourably received, he will be assigned solicitor and counsel at the public expense.

ACTIONS *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*.

But it is not only in criminal matters that special facilities are accorded to poor persons. Contrary to popular belief, poverty is not an insuperable bar to civil process. The veriest pauper may bring an action at law and may secure gratuitous legal assistance in the furtherance of his claims. Similarly, a defendant who is without means may have counsel and other legal aid in resisting an action brought against him. No person, however poor, need be deterred from asserting his rights or voicing his wrongs.

Procedure *in forma pauperis* dates from the reign of Henry VII. and has remained substantially unchanged. It is intended only for really necessitous persons, and is not available to any litigant who possesses more than twenty-five pounds worth of property exclusive of wearing apparel. But the applicant must first submit a full and accurate statement of his case to a barrister for an opinion as to its validity. Should counsel's opinion be favourable, the applicant must then swear an affidavit declaring that the particulars submitted by him constitute a complete and truthful summary of his case and that his assets amount to less than £25. A petition should then be prepared setting forth the names of the plaintiff and defendant and the cause of action and concluding with a declaration of poverty and a request for legal aid. If he so desires, the petitioner may mention counsel or solicitor by name. The petition, together with counsel's affidavit, should then be delivered to a registrar of the Division in which the action is to be heard, who will arrange for its transmission to the proper quarter. Should the applicant's petition be granted, he will have counsel and solicitor assigned to him and will be exempted from the payment of Court dues and hearing fees.

A litigant who is entitled to free legal aid, but who has omitted to sue for it at the outset of the proceedings, may do so at any subsequent stage, or may apply for leave to appeal *in forma pauperis*.

The above procedure is applicable equally to suits in the King's Bench, Chancery, or Divorce Divisions.

POOR PERSON DYING WITHOUT WILL.

The law affords special facilities to a poor person desiring to take out Letters of Administration of an intestate's estate. The officials of Probate Registries have express instructions to render all possible aid to persons of small means, and where the estate is less than £100 in value, and the nearest Probate Registry is more than three miles distant, application may be made to the Registrar of the nearest County Court, who will be required to fill up the necessary papers and obtain the desired "letters" on the applicant's behalf. A lowered scale of fees is payable in such cases—5s. for property under £20, and then 5s. and 1s. for every £10.

THE IDEAL.

It will be seen that the rights of poor litigants are hedged around with formalities and restrictions. Some day legal procedure will be placed on a business footing and law itself reduced to sane and simple rules. Then, at last, the poor will come into their own.

LEGAL ADVICE.

(Postal Order for One Shilling must accompany EACH SEPARATE *enquiry. Letters must be addressed to the Legal Editor.)*

LEGAL (FLASH) LIGHTS:—

A servant cannot demand a written or any reference.

A man can sue a woman for breach of promise to marry.

You cannot recover damages for libel unless you can prove publication to a third party.

Husband and wife are one person in the eye of the law, and therefore cannot be convicted of conspiring together.

A man cannot be compelled to contribute to the support of his mother-in-law, not even if she becomes chargeable to the rates.

"HOT WATER" (Allendale).—You must still contribute to the child's support. The fact that the woman has since married does not relieve you of the liability; if you discontinue the payments she can issue a summons in the Police Court.

E. N. M. (London).—Provided the trustees had the property valued by a competent valuer before investing your money, and then lent only two-thirds of the amount of the valuation on first mortgage, you cannot hold him responsible for the loss you have sustained through the depreciation. Many trustees would be ruined if they had to make good unforeseen depreciations—such as the depreciation of Consols.

H. J. W.—The stock, dividends, or interest of a Friendly Society, established under the Friendly Societies Acts, are exempt from Schedule C of the Income Tax Act, if the rules of the Society assure to a member, or his nominee, more than £300, or an annuity of more than £30. They are also exempt in respect of interest on money lent, and all other profits and gains under Schedule D, and are exempt from Schedule A, as to their land, unless it is occupied by an individual member or by a person paying rent.

F. J. N. (Wimbledon).—Unless the weekly amount you are receiving under the Workmen's Compensation Act is *less* than the full amount you would otherwise be entitled to under the Insurance Act (Sick Benefit) you have no claim except by way of allowance. It is for you to claim difference. And we wish you may get it.

"ANXIOUS" (Moseley).—If the marriage is by banns, the parties must reside in the parish for three Sundays previous to the ceremony. If by licence, the period of residence in the parish is a minimum of 15 days.

"SCYTHE."—Your firm is not legally liable to pay you your wages for the nine weeks you were absent through illness. Surely you do not expect all the benefits of the Insurance Act and full wages in addition? You are much too sharp.

A. B (Brighton).—The owner of the van would be liable to pay for the damage done to the shop by his runaway horse, as the carman was negligent in leaving it unattended.

D. C. P. (Porth).—Of course, the builder can demand £2 4s. for the job he agreed to do for £1 7s., but don't be fool enough to give it to him. Tender the 27s. before a witness; if he declines to accept it, let him sue you. At the hearing of the case call the witness who heard him agree to do the work for the lesser sum, and the person who saw you tender that amount. You will win, get your costs, and teach him a very valuable lesson.

B. L. (Bradford).—Though he is the leader of a gang of white-slavers and lured her out to Buenos Ayres, she cannot throw off the marriage yoke he put on her in England unless she can prove his misconduct; his "cruelty" in that case would be taken for granted in the Divorce Court. As to the question of judicial separation, she had better seek the advice of a solicitor or the local magistrate.

J. F. D. (Hendon).—We think the case you require is Colne Valley Water Company *v.* Hall, 98 L.T. 398, which decided that when a communication pipe connecting a main of a water company with the premises of a consumer lay under the highway, the liability to repair was upon the company and not upon the consumer.

J. B. X. (Greenhithe).—You are not liable for debts contracted by your wife before marriage, unless you received property from her, in which case you would be liable to the extent of such property. If she has no separate estate the creditors can do nothing.

L. S. S. (Golder's Green).—The fact that you lent money at remunerative interest to two friends is not sufficient to make you a moneylender within the meaning of the Act. Sue in the County Court, and if at the hearing of the case the Judge has any doubt on the point, refer him to Newton *v.* Pike, 25 T.L.R., p. 127.

X. (Walthamstow).—If you are quite certain that it is not provided in your agreement that you are to permit prospective tenants to go over your house, you, of course, need not. Hope your next landlord will not be so objectionable as this one has proved.

(Many answers are unavoidably held over.)

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The following claims have been received:—

Mr. J. L. OWEN, 4, Garnault Place, Rosebery Avenue, E.C. June 7th. No. 703,512.

Mr. F. R. MOUNT, 3, Woodbury Avenue, Winchmore Hill, N. May 31st. No. 768,431.

Mr. A. BURGOYNE, Holly Mount, Shavington, nr. Crewe. May 31st. No. 581,354.

Mr. T. S. BLAND, 5, Mayfield Terrace, Mountfields, Shrewsbury. May 31st. No. 103,968.

Mr. H. GOODALL, 18, Wright Street, Hunslet Carr, Leeds. May 31st. No. 358,296.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of June 14TH.

004780	163420	375085	588171	810412
010305	188780	384462	624915	844333
059253	189444	434871	653440	877859
064860	209052	457142	671840	915811
080936	233779	463385	698327	920564
099455	260215	478248	706892	953796
110049	274067	497452	735448	983881
129760	337764	503879	760511	A001510
146772	350406	530256	786492	A002637
154829	361788	557684	791620	A043482

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED JUNE 25TH).

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 916.
For Sporting Replies, see page 920.
For Legal Replies, see page 906.

R. J. (Cardiff) is a railway worker, having for the last 13 years been warehouseman, booking-clerk, ticket-collector and signalman in turn. He is strong and reliable, and, as his wife is ailing, would be glad to get a better position, or to change his place of work to the vicinity of a health resort. Possibly some reader can assist. The case being exceptional, we have pleasure in mentioning it in this column.

DAVY STEVENS (Kingstown).—Sorry we were out of town when you called, but we caught a glimpse of your cheery face on Epsom Downs. Our Special Commissioner, who had a few words with you, tells us you had a high old time in the West End. Naughty old man! Newspaper trade still good?

"A RATEPAYER" (Ashby-de-la-Zouch).—It would not be fair for the Local Government Board to act upon *ex parte* statements as if they were indisputable. They are in justice bound to let those charged with offences know of what they are accused and call for observations in reply.

"SHAMROCK III." (Llandudno).—(1) We have heard of the Advertising School you mention, and it is possible that people with natural aptitude, but needing technical guidance, may derive advantage from it. (2) What do we think of advertising as a profession? A lot.

"UNFORTUNATE EMIGRANT" (North Vancouver).—Much obliged. We are writing on the state of things your way.

"A CONSTANT READER" (Liscard).—Have nothing to do with the Universal Mail Order Institute, of 260, Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E. It is a Yankee flat-trap.

MRS. R. M. S. (Swindon) says she means to win a "Bullets" Competition, but when she does she will not give her husband as much as 6d. of the prize money, because he laughs at her for trying. What *are* wives coming to nowadays?

C. E. (Battersea).—By all means claim the Latchmere estate. We will gladly accept a present of an acre or two if you get it.

"JUSTICE" (Southsea).—Sorry to hear you are "hounded down and boycotted by a well-known man and in consequence compelled to stay within doors many weeks, the only reason being that you won't do anything immoral." Steal out quietly one of these dark nights and whisper to a policeman.

JACK H. (Hamilton, Ont.).—We agree that intending emigrants do not always realise, as you have realised in your own experience as a "commercial" in various parts of Canada, that "in proportion to Canada's population it has as much poverty as England."

"EDINBURGH" (S. Rhodesia).—Thanks for your very flattering acrostical adjectives on JOHN BULL, to wit: J—ust, O—bservant, H—onourable, N—oble, B—eneficial, U—undaunted, L—audable, L—oyal." *En effet, sans peur et sans reproche.*

"FAIR PAID" (Vauxhall).—The 3½d. inside the tract the strange lady gave to you while in the tramcar was either benevolence or accident. The ha'penny suggests accident; and it is about ten to one that when you had alighted and the conductor came round she would not be able to find her tram fare.

J. J. W. (Liverpool).—Thanks for your appreciation, and your belief in us. By such as you are we nerved.

MRS. S. (Weymouth).—"We owe no rent, and we ain't going to shift." All right. Your heart is rent, but not your garment.

"ROSE G." (Notting Hill).—"A certain lady, as she calls herself, expects a girl of very respectable appearance and nearly 20 years of age to work from 8 o'clock in morning until 12.30 o'clock for 3s. and no food." Let her call herself.

"CURIOUS" (London, N.).—Perhaps the vacancy was all cut and dried, as fishy things sometimes are.

G. M. (Dublin).—How can you expect us to read invisible ink?

R. W. (Dublin).—"If the Compulsory Service Bill becomes law, how will it apply to Ireland?" We have not yet decided.

F. M. (London, W.).—Your poem about Lloyd George is so horrible that we have had to fumigate it. And what do you mean by saying, "I only wish I knew the law, Of years and years ago, My mind would always be at ease, And trouble would not know"? You might as reasonably say, You only wished you knew the law, Of years and years to come, And then you'd stand upon your head, And sit upon your thumb." Avaunt!

A. R. (Brockley).—Have you considered the fact that Englishmen living in other countries, numbering hundreds of thousands, are also "foreigners" in those countries?

MISS D. K. (Brighton).—"New nurse: 'Please m'm I've got the children's bath ready and may I have the tepid to put into it?'" You ask us to "accept this little pun," which is no pun, but we would not pour cold water on it for worlds.

"CINEMA" (Brixton).—Why do you ask us whether "Clement Blake and Day, 40, Chancery Lane, W.C., are a straightforward, trustworthy firm"?

REV. W. J. (Pailton).—We referred to the matter some time ago.

A. H. C. (Manchester).—The letter you send seems to be about Government sweating of clerks in Labour Exchanges, but it is not very coherent.

M. R. L. (Maidstone).—Our advice to him would be to stand on his head every morning before breakfast and count six.

"GEORGE IV." (Clerkenwell).—The Minister would get the pension on leaving office providing he made the usual declaration of "poverty," and that the list was not already full up.

H. H. (Waddon).—We do not know how Captain Rand, the "lucky" stone liar and fool-catcher, obtained the name of your housemaid.

J. R. (Shipley).—If you can "make a machine to give perpetual motion in about a day and will guarantee it to work," why don't you do it? We will give you threepence for it.

G. H. F. (Twyford).—Your statement is *ex parte*, though we do not question it for a moment.

S. K. (Vict. Park).—It is only because we are versed in hieroglyphics, thought-reading, and the habits of spiders crawling out of inkpots that we have been able to understand your letter. To our regret, we are unable to recommend your son "to sum one that beleves in helping those Who try to help themselves." The penalties for trying to help oneself in this country are varied, but serious.

A. L. (S. Shields).—We are not at present prepared to disclose the names of our Ministers when we form the Business Government.

"READER" (Chirnside) tells us that in December last she unfortunately had fever in her house. Mattresses were burnt by order of the authorities. Compensation was awarded her to the extent of 16s., but she is unable to get it. Incidentally, she mentions that her husband has been out of work for eight months through ill-health, and that she cannot afford to take out a County Court summons. Show this paragraph to the Sanitary Inspector.

H. L. (Camden Town).—Certainly we will "keep your name out, but if it was worth your while to write to us complaining of the brutality of the police, don't you think it was your duty to go to the police station and report what you saw?

H. M. (Birkenhead).—It is kind of you to take the trouble of distributing twenty-one copies of us in two days to likely new readers. Enthusiasm such as yours is assured of our grateful acknowledgments.

A Fountain Pen for every Reader. See Our Great Offer on page 913.

"ANNIE LANGSFORD" (Smethwick).—It is scandalous that at the date you write your letter, though you filled up four forms and have written to London six letters and been away from work through illness for nearly six weeks, you cannot get your sick pay under the Insurance Act. No wonder you are sick of being sick.

"CONSTANT READER" (Putney).—We have no confidence that the form of trading to which the British Supply Stores, 21, Cannon Street, Manchester, invite you will be to your advantage.

J. D. B. (Devonport).—We trust your lady friend has not parted with any cash to Sahib Carlton "the Only Ecstatic Astrologer and Mystic Adept West of the Himalaya Mountains." He is a Yankee charlatan.

B. C. H. (East Dulwich).—It is not promising that the Country Gentlemen's Association, 24 & 25, St. James's Street, have to advertise in the *Field* in order to induce out-of-work servants like you to pay 3s. 6d. for an advertisement in their own magazine. It is still less promising that, having got your 3s. 6d., they have neither sent you a copy of their magazine, as they undertook to do, nor replied to your letter.

C. T. (Ilford).—Now just think, good sir. How can you expect us to "put a letter of 250 words together" for you if you call at our office in the course of a few days? Apply to a local scribe and do not try to bring our grey hairs with sorrow to the grave.

A. HAMILTON (Divorce Law Reform Union).—Notwithstanding that a man has been twice previously convicted of living wholly or partly on his wife's earnings, the Acton magistrates only gave him six months' hard when brought up again. "What have you got to say about this?" you ask. Soft.

"WOODSYD" (Bayswater).—"When one sees £15,000 offered in prizes for aerial flights and another wants just a hundred pounds to try experiments on three important inventions and can't get them, makes one swear, don't it?" It do.

"COLLYCROFT" (Bedworth).—No, we do not think you can compel the Manchester Tea Company, Corporation Street, Birmingham, to pay you any bonus, their undertaking being to give "a bonus in turn." As you have taken the tea for two years and are still without that bonus, your turn will probably never come.

A. E. J. (Camberwell).—If you have exhibited bills for the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, on the understanding that the manager would send you passes and he has not done so, he ought to fulfil his bargain. Probably he will.

J. P. (Whitehaven).—We sympathise, but much fear our readers generally would not feel greatly interested in the dispute between the Workington Iron and Steel Company, Ltd., and the local Miners' Union.

E. F. (Clapham).—True that Mr. H. J. Smith, Town Clerk of South Lambeth, salary £1,000 a year, is retiring on a superannuation allowance of £746 a year. But it is a contributory superannuation, isn't it?

"ANON." (Buckingham).—Enough about the Mayor being a "noddy." The use of the phrase wasn't in good taste, that's certain, though his worship did not rise to the situation in the right way. As for your poetry, it is, as you say, a long way after Browning.

C. E. W. (Queenborough).—For the moment we have not the figures at hand, but the Liberals have undoubtedly lost more seats than the Tories "since the last General Election." 'Tis ever so with the party in power.

"THIRSTY" (Ealing).—If, as you say, Muswell Hill possesses seven churches, five banks, and only one hostelry, it will probably not suit you; unless, that is to say, it happens also to have a pond.

M. M. (Bolton).—Your terminological Pankhurstitudes do not move us. If we were the Home Secretary the ladies would be supplied with their regular repasts like other Government lodgers, and if they did not eat the same we could not help it.

W. H. B. (Wexford).—People receiving these impertinent coupon-touting circulars from Finestone's, of Northwich, should cast them into the fiery furnace.

P. J. C. (Wolverhampton).—"How Father, Mother, and One Child can spend an interesting and educational holiday in France for, say, £30 for a month," is a problem a little beyond us, especially as you would "like to stay at a place on the seacoast where an excursion train could be got to go to Paris for a day or so and such places of historical interest." Why not consult the man from Cook's?

J. A. H. (Wilmur, B.C.).—You assert that "Englishmen are hated and despised all over this continent (Canada), so low have they sunk" and add that "a successful war with a first-class Power is badly wanted to restore our prestige, otherwise the Empire will totter to pieces." What if it wasn't a successful war?

"SENSITIVE" (Hampstead).—You must be well aware of our method of treating anonymous letters.

J. M. (Durrington).—Your rates are 2s. 6d. in the £, you say. We wish ours were.

J. D. R. (Hessle).—Remember that every saint has his past; also every sinner his future.

Mrs. (Brighton).—Sorry we cannot print anything about your husband's "goings on." Our readers would be shocked. Besides, he would probably still go on.

"DISGUSTED" (Leytonstone).—Neither card nor letter enclosed.

G. F. F. (Salford).—The firm are justified. You cannot expect them to take back the knife when you have tampered with it.

D. C. (Fort William).—We advise you, as we have advised others, to rely upon your own efforts in newspaper competitions.

C. D. (Ellesmere).—Thanks. Your parson forgot to go to a funeral, but we know one who forgot to go to a wedding, and another who forgot to go to a christening. Agreed that nobody ought to forget anything, but alas, for human imperfection!

A. W. H. (London, E.).—The law may be an ass, but it is the law.

"TRAVELLER" (London).—You "often wonder why the Japanese and Chinese allow Americans into their countries." *Us aussi.*

R. L. J. (Coventry).—*Prendre la lune avec les dents* literally means to take the moon by the teeth; other words, to do what is not possible.

A. G. (Liverpool).—Afraid it is a *chose jugee*—which we cannot reopen *ex parte.*

G. B. W. (Liverpool).—It may be hard, as you suggest, that the Sudbury magistrates should have ordered the destruction of the poor man's old lame donkey, but on what grounds you think they should have bought him a sound one in place of it we do not know.

"PRO. BON. PUB." (Oldham).—If you have written on three separate dates during the last three months to the Clerk of the Cheshire Insurance Committee for information and have not received any reply, we are not surprised you should think he is neglecting his business. Peradventure, however, he is merely resting from his arduous labours.

M. R. L. (Bodmin).—We know one can grow hair on a donkey and thatch on an empty barn, but whether you can grow mushrooms in your cellar is a trifle beyond us. Try us with another.

J. E., W. O., and H. B. (Fleetwood).—The *Mirror of Life* should be much better able to advise whether you ought to have your money returned than we are.

Mrs. E. (Kentish Town).—You are not quite explicit enough for us to advise you. Why not consult the chief of police?

"INTERESTED" (Bradford).—In a libel action your "facts" would not justify your statements.

J. P. (Winsford).—The Imperial Artificial Teeth Company, of Warrington, and elsewhere, are not the only dental quacks on earth. The public who wish to be toothed and treated by such people must take the risks of their confidence.

"ALPHA" (Brixton).—It is not for us to question any firm's straightforwardness without ample reason.

P. S. (Old Kent Road).—True, O King. But surely you have lived long enough in the world to know that it demands great drama or great tragedy before it will consent to be profoundly moved.

H. E. C. (Beckenham).—If you are a regular reader you must know that we do frequently "take up the cause of the animals." One idea does not quite fill our brain box, however.

"A KITCHEN HAND" (Folkestone).—The Shops Act is now in force.

M. S. (Wandsworth).—Please, please spare us. Surely we have enough to do with our own competitions without worrying about some other editor's?

P. F. T. (Ray, Arizona).—It is kind of you to appreciate our efforts to put right what is wrong.

"A WEXFORD MAN."—"If Ulster would propound a Home Rule scheme of its own, perhaps Nationalists could be induced to consider it with a view to an agreement which would be a happy ending." The Nationalists might consider it, but General Carson certainly wouldn't.

C. S. R. (Middlesbrough).—Your poem beginning "How hollow," etc., and ending "So I bow obedient to paramount mockery till it Revels in Triumph at my grave," is hereby cast into the yawning chasm of our W.P.B. When an actor is "resting" he should rest; also let us.

H. JAQUES (Darrington).—Nothing is known to us concerning the firm you mention, but if their man left the map and demanded 16s. for it, and then sent a lithographed circular saying it had been ordered when it had not, it should be retained until he fetches it away.

W. E. H. (Glam.).—Relying on what you say, we advise homing pigeon 1s. ring competitors to assure themselves that all are treated alike in the contest before spending any more money on rings.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Let "Bullets" Pay for Your Holidays. More £5 Notes Offered.

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION :—

Isn't cricket a paying game? See page 911.
Can't Ulster strike a blow without "arms"?
Wasn't the Marconi "Report" a subdued one?
Isn't Lord Murray in an "out-of-the-way" spot?
Does "W.S.P.U." stand for "We Shan't Pay Up"?
Isn't the Government taking too much upon itself?
Don't the Powers call them the "Baulk 'Uns" now?
Isn't there too much "gas" about our Army airships?
Haven't the "Young Hot Bloods" a pretty cool cheek?
Will "The Gilded Pill," at the Globe Theatre "go down"?
Are the Unionists in favour of "attacks" on the breakfast table?
Doesn't the Premier agree that "Ignorance is bliss" sometimes?
What will the French rights of the cinema representation of Waterloo be worth?

* * *

THE LATEST FICTION :—

That Marie Corelli's next volume will be bound in Gray.
That Colonel Roosevelt has proved himself a bit of a Nut.
That the Trafalgar Square speeches in future will appear in Nelson's Column.
That the Suffragettes failed to ignite the oil at the Academy, as the canvases are matchless.

* * *

RAPID REVIEWS :—

Insects.—An irritating work.
Harvest.—Wants cutting down.
A Summer Quadrille.—Got us set.
The Pyjama Man.—Attiring book.
Mrs. Gray's Past.—Should be read.
So it is with the Damsel.—A dam—sel.
The Inside of the Cup.—Nothing in it.
An Average Man.—By one, we should think.

* * *

ALTERNATIVE BOOK-TITLES :—

The Yellow Peril.—Election Eggs.
The Scarlet Letter.—Jane Ann's Last.
It's Never Too Late to Mend.—Darn It!
Old Scotch Stories.—Black and White.
The Biter Bit.—The Dog and the Flea.
The Last Man.—Time, Gentlemen, Please.
The Sign of Four.—An Original Pawnbroker.
How to be Happy Though Married.—Clubs are Trumps.
Locke on the Human Understanding.—The Hooligan Club.
In Darkest England and the Way Out.—A Negress and an Egress.

* * *

WELLERISMS :—

"I don't think," said Algy.
"To the day," sang the early lark.
"I deserve a licking," said the insurance stamp.
"Rag-time," whispered Mr. Caudle to his pillow.
"Lest we forget," said the pencil to the shirt-cuff.
"Caution, concealed turnings," said the appendicitis operator.
"See small bills," said the take-care-of-the-pence economist.
"Glass with care," said the orchard robber when he surveyed the jagged-topped wall.

* * *

As Baron Henri de Rothschild has achieved fame with "Crœsus," we understand that we may soon expect the following :—

Lord Iveagh: "How Drink was Put Down: or A Stout Defence."

Mr. Carnegie: "True as steel: or How the Penny Rate was brought to Book."

Sir T. Lipton: "The Race of Life: or How the Sausage King won the Buttercup."

Sir A. Mond, Bart: "The Wish-Wash: or How a Split Soda revived Free Trade."

Mr. Rockefeller: "Flash-Light Studies: or How the Oil fed the Flames and the Millionaire."

* * *

"Pearls in a garden" we read. Evidently a plant.

* * *

The man who buys a wife generally finds that *he* has been sold.

* * *

Hand-painted sunshades are to be the thing at Ascot. With faces to match?

* * *

"The Worst Play in London," is the heading to a criticism. It must be a terror!

* * *

A new school at Willesden is to be provided with a bathroom. But it is nothing new for scholars to get into "hot water."

* * *

It is a great pity that the marriage "tie" is not always a "lover's knot."

* * *

"Through the Window," a new book is called. It should get a "look-in."

* * *

Picture theatres may be "flickering," but they are by no means "going out."

* * *

The most suitable game for enthusiastic members of theatre queues—"patience."

* * *

"Woman is a novel," says a writer. Yes, and the interest begins with Chap. 1.

* * *

Don't trust a man with your business until you know that he can mind his own.

* * *

A minister who recently passed away began life as a joiner. And finished it as one.

* * *

The American actress who insured her eyes for £5,000 evidently values her "looks" highly.

* * *

The fruit prospect in Kent is said to be so bad that even the trees will find it hard to bear.

* * *

"Bridegroom of 87 blushes," we read. Doubtless the bride admired his blooming cheek.

* * *

Mr. Fletcher says that all illness can be cured by chewing. Then M.P.s should never be ill.

* * *

The statement that pigeon pies are very indigestible will be bad news for pigeon "fanciers."

* * *

A Californian woman applied for a divorce because her husband cut her hair off. She won hirsute.

* * *

"The Cage," is the name of a new play. We trust the audience will not supply "the bird."

* * *

"Irish tape factory burned down," we read. But there will be more than enough for Home Rule.

* * *

"Chinese puzzles are easier than women," says a novelist. Yet a man rarely "gives them up."

* * *

A robin in Lincolnshire built a nest in an old kettle. Just the article to teach the youngsters to sing.

* * *

A bullock which died suddenly was found to have swallowed a child's parasol. Evidently a killing shade.

* * *

The difference between a lawyer and a criminal is that one takes up the law, the other the law takes up.

* * *

Mr. Bonar Law declares that the Unionist Party can now put on full sail. But what about those Food tacks?

* * *

"I find it very difficult to maintain my belief in myself," says Mr. James Douglas. We are sorry we cannot help him.

* * *

"Will rag-time reach the Church?" asks a contemporary. Underpaid curates say that it has been there all too long.

* * *

Mr. G. H. Roberts suggests that fatigue among employed persons be scheduled as a disease. The complaint would be general.

* * *

EAST AND WEST :—

"Now, no pushing. I'm sorry if you've been waiting two hours—but you're all on the panel and must take your turn."

"Take a seat near the fire, madam—it's rather a cold day. There's the *Graphic* and the *Times*. I shall be disengaged in about five minutes."

* * *

"Tell yer mother I can't help it if she *has* been dealing here ten years. I can't give you the butter without the money."

"Sir,—If you have the impertinence to send me your account again without I ask for it, I shall immediately withdraw my custom."

* * *

"I cannot listen to you any further. It's a very bad case. Starvation is no excuse for this dastardly crime of stealing a loaf from a baker's truck. Six months."

"It is perfectly clear, your Worship, that although the prisoner has taken these things from a dozen different establishments, she is quite unanswerable for her actions. She has been suffering from nervous headaches for some weeks, and it is a clear case of kleptomania." Discharged.

New Serial, "From Factory Girl to Peeress," Begins in "Mary Bull" this week.

FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK. FILL IT IN NOW.

One Thousand Pounds!

FOR ALL FORECASTS CORRECT

FOR NEAREST FORECASTS SHORT OF FULL NUMBER. **£150**

FOR NEXT HIGHEST. **£75**

FOR A MAUVE COUPON **£50**

NO FEES, NO SCORES REQUIRED.

THIS is your last opportunity of participating in our third great cricket contest. The final coupon appears this week; the competition closing Monday, June 23rd. By exercising your knowledge and skill of the great Summer pastime you have the opportunity of winning the biggest cricket prizes offered by any journal. Three huge cash prizes *must be won*. If you have not already entered, do so *now*. It is your last chance.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

On page 2 of our cover you will find a coupon giving matches which will be played on dates between June 23rd and July 3rd.

Cross out in ink the club you think will *lose*. If you predict a draw do not cross out either club.

Matches commenced and unfinished count as draws. If both sides score an equal number of runs the match will be regarded as being drawn.

Matches not commenced at all, not a single ball being bowled, will be ignored. Thus—

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

£1,000 will be paid to the competitor sending us an Entrance Form giving a correct forecast of all the matches given. In the unlikely event of no entrance form being received containing all the correct forecasts, we shall award the huge sum of **£150 IN CASH** to the competitor sending most correct forecasts, even if the number be only 8 or 10. *In addition* we shall award **£75 IN CASH** to the competitor sending in the next highest number of correct forecasts.

You can send in as many entries as you like. Any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but EVERY coupon must be signed in ink by its respective sender.

The competition is one of skill, and we recommend readers to study the cricket columns of the daily papers.

As a guide to competitors we give with the coupon on page 2 of cover last year's results of the matches we have selected for this competition.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover cross out in ink by running a pen through the names, the clubs you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either club.
2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner, **Cricket Competition, NO. 3.** so as to reach us not later than first post **Monday, June 23rd,** but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.
3. The £1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results of all the matches, as published in the "Sporting Life."
4. In the event of no Entrance Form containing all the correct results, £150 will be awarded to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the largest number of correct forecasts, short of the full number, and £75 to the sender of the next highest number of correct forecasts.

THE COUPON

will be found

ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER.

£50 Cash

FOR A

"MAUVE" Coupon.

Again we offer an additional and distinct cash prize of £50 for the best forecasts on a "Mauve" Coupon taken from "Mary Bull." This prize is intended as a special award to lady competitors and we cordially invite ladies to enter. As announced in a recent issue a lady reader not only carried off a third share of the first prize in No. 1 Competition, but in addition £50 for using a Mauve Coupon. Bear in mind—by sending a Mauve Coupon, ladies have the opportunity of winning, not only the £1,000 prize, or the Contingent prizes of £150 and £75, but also an extra Cash Prize of £50. Get your lady friends to enter now. "Mary Bull" is on sale every Friday.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

In addition a distinct cash prize of £50 will be awarded to the lady sending most correct forecasts on a MAUVE COUPON taken from MARY BULL.

5. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.
6. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.
7. Any effort on which an alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.
8. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the £1,000 prize or the contingent prizes of £150 and £75, as well as the special £50 ladies' prize, will be equally divided.

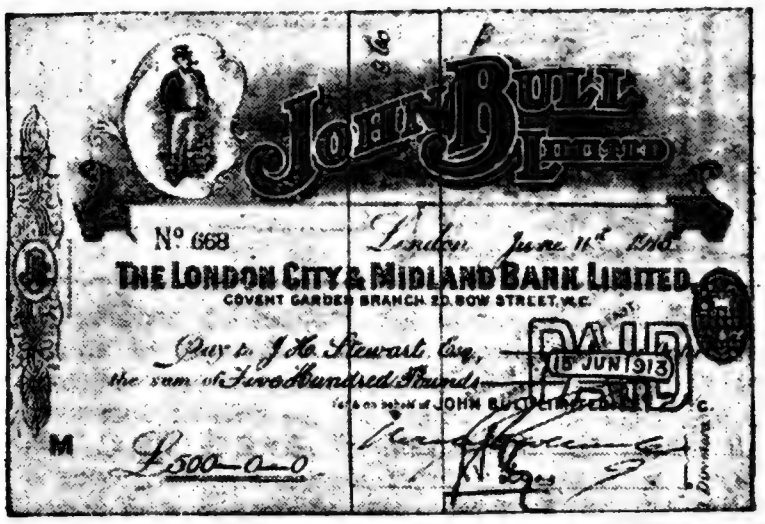
After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 918 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other valuable prizes.

YOUR LAST CHANCE TO WIN. CLOSES JUNE 23.

OUR 34TH "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

£500 WON BY A BELFAST BUSINESS MAN.

Mr. J. H. Stewart, of 31, Clifton Park, Belfast, the winner of the £500 in our 34th "Bullets" Competition, expresses his joy at receiving the handsome cheque in a delightfully idiomatic way: "It has fairly given me the greatest pleasantry in the way of shocks." Mr. Stewart tells us he has been a "fairly regular" entrant in our "Bullets" Competition, and had already secured several smaller prizes. Being engaged in business on his own


JOHN BULL LIMITED
No 668
London June 11th 1913
THE LONDON CITY & MIDLAND BANK LIMITED
COVENT GARDEN BRANCH 20 BOW STREET, W.C.
Pay to J. H. Stewart Esq.
the sum of Five Hundred Pounds
PAID
18 JUN 1913
£500—0—0

account, his great success will be of invaluable service to him. Mr. Stewart always had unbounded confidence in the fairness of our awards, and naturally now needs no further evidence. He has been kind enough to send us a donation of £5 for our "Human Documents."

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Mr. A. Williamson, 188, High Street, Belfast, until June 21st, and thence until the 25th at those of Mr. McGowan, 8, Clifton Street, Belfast. The cheque for the second prize, £75, will be shown at Mr. R. Macdonald's Library, Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan.

WHAT A FREQUENT PRIZEWINNER SAYS.

The following letter, received from Mr. J. Stanley Williams, of 212, Caerleon Road, Newport, Mon., speaks for itself:—

Thanks for your kind letter enclosing Continuous Merit Prize of £2 2s., duly to hand. Allow me to express my appreciation of the fairness and thoroughness of the judging of "Bullets," although I haven't had the pleasure of availing myself of your offer to see the judges at work.

Many people tell one that the prizes are spread around the different towns, for the sake of the circulation of the paper, and therefore a prize seldom goes to the same town twice, much less to the same person. I know competitors who send in different names and addresses on this belief. I think, however, the following facts squelch the above idea:—In connection with "Bullets" Competition I received £2 2s. this week, £2 10s. last week, and £2 10s. the week before last. In addition to these three successive cash prizes I also received eight consolation prizes previously, and five of these were in successive weeks. All these prizes were awarded to the *same name and address*—viz., my own.

THE PARTY SYSTEM.

Snores, snores, snores,
After dinner sleeping;
Whilst debate is creeping,
Snores, snores, snores.

Snores, snores, snores—
Hark! a bell is ringing;
To their feet are springing
Scores, scores, scores.

Vote, vote, vote,
As their Whips direct 'em;
Fools, who still elect 'em.
Note, note, note.

J. S. C.

(Photo: HERMAN, Wood Green, N.)

Mrs. REBECCA CLARK (London's Oldest Inhabitant)

Gains Vitality to reach 109th Year.

Mr. Harry Clark, who is 66 years of age, states:—"My dear old mother has been taking Phosferine now for many years, the tonic prolongs her activities and *considerably increases her vitality.* In all her long life and experience (and she is in her 109th year) there has never been any remedy which strengthens and restores her as Phosferine does, for it has kept her going during the long dreary winter, and does brace her up so in this very trying weather. Phosferine *prevents her bodily functions getting weak or out of order,* and any invalids or aged people will find it as much of a necessity as my mother and myself."—164, High Road, Wood Green.

No other medicine has received such absolute proof of its extraordinary properties in restoring Shattered Constitutions, and in giving back to the prematurely aged New Life and Energy.

CAUTION

There is only one Phosferine—beware of illegal imitations—do not be misled by PHOSPH THIS or PHOSPH THAT, but get

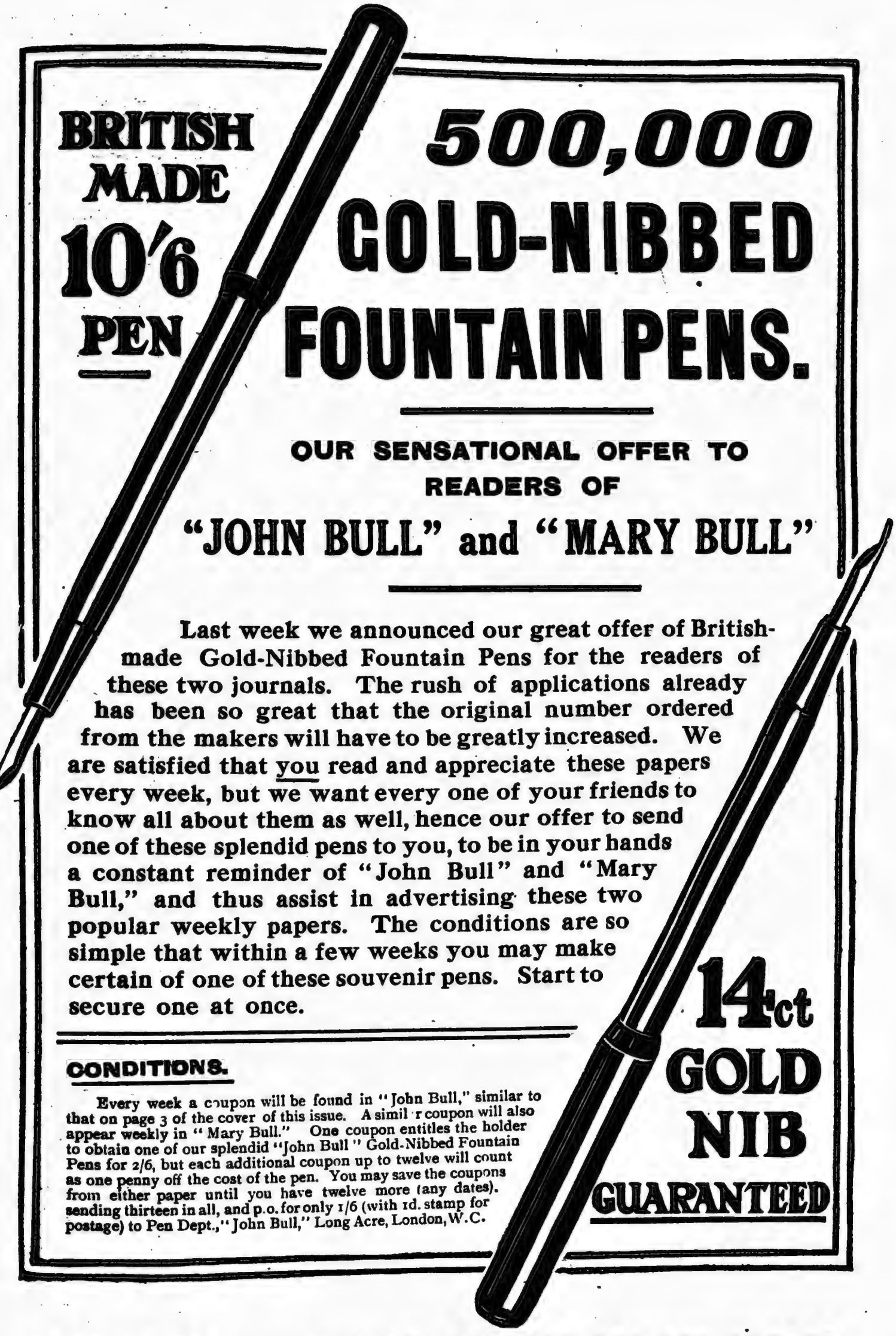
PHOSFERINE

THE REMEDY OF KINGS

PHOSFERINE has been supplied by Royal Commands to

The Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Spain
H.M. the late King of Greece
H.M. the Queen of Roumania, etc.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.



BRITISH MADE 10/6 PEN

500,000 GOLD-NIBBED FOUNTAIN PENS.

OUR SENSATIONAL OFFER TO READERS OF

"JOHN BULL" and "MARY BULL"

Last week we announced our great offer of British-made Gold-Nibbed Fountain Pens for the readers of these two journals. The rush of applications already has been so great that the original number ordered from the makers will have to be greatly increased. We are satisfied that you read and appreciate these papers every week, but we want every one of your friends to know all about them as well, hence our offer to send one of these splendid pens to you, to be in your hands a constant reminder of "John Bull" and "Mary Bull," and thus assist in advertising these two popular weekly papers. The conditions are so simple that within a few weeks you may make certain of one of these souvenir pens. Start to secure one at once.

14ct GOLD NIB GUARANTEED

CONDITIONS.

Every week a coupon will be found in "John Bull," similar to that on page 3 of the cover of this issue. A similar coupon will also appear weekly in "Mary Bull." One coupon entitles the holder to obtain one of our splendid "John Bull" Gold-Nibbed Fountain Pens for 2/6, but each additional coupon up to twelve will count as one penny off the cost of the pen. You may save the coupons from either paper until you have twelve more (any dates), sending thirteen in all, and p.o. for only 1/6 (with 1d. stamp for postage) to Pen Dept., "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.

TURN TO PAGE III OF COVER AND CUT OUT THE COUPON.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter Box, see page* 916.]

The Stock Markets.

At last the tide has turned and the stock markets, now that the settlement in London has been surmounted with only small casualities, are bracing up again. To this satisfactory change the Czar's warning to the Balkan States and their acceptance of his arbitration has greatly contributed. Investors have been quietly picking up Home Rails, Canadian Pacifics, Argentine Rails, etc. It is satisfactory to find that the French banks have decided to put off all large loans until the autumn, and thus confidence should also return on the Paris Bourse as soon as the mid-June settlement is over. As there are to be no large issues in London, some of the recently-floated loans are improving in price—notably Chinese and Brazilians. The news from Canada is that they are ready to launch many more big issues, which would be a great mistake. Canada has already borrowed up to the hilt, as in the first five months of this year Canadian flotations amounted to £18,715,882, which compares with £32,856,603 during the whole of 1912, and £39,855,517 in 1911. Kaffirs are rather firmer on the "high record" Transvaal Gold output for May. Yankees have at last gone ahead sharply on a favourable New York bank statement, but they will not be supported to any extent on this side. There are now indications that Nigerian and probably Malayan Tin shares will be taken in hand again. Copper shares are also more promising, but Rio Tintos have relapsed in Paris on the strike in Huelva. Prices all round are still very low and there are plenty of bargains for investors.

Oil in South Africa.

The following important notice appears in the *Union Government Gazette* of May 16th:—"Persons who have reason to believe that indications of oil exist in any locality are invited to communicate with the Under Secretary of Mines, Pretoria, as soon as possible, giving full particulars of the nature of the occurrence and indications; the locality and tenure of the land upon which it is situated, and the best means of access thereto, with all other particulars which may be possible." This, of course, has reference to the decision of the Union Government to take an active interest in the oil resources of Africa—in which new industry the Consolidated Oil Felds of South Africa, Limited, is acting as pioneer.

Monte Carlo (British) Syndicate.

This concern, which styles itself a "wealthy British financial syndicate"—so wealthy, in fact, that it cadges shillings from the public, and so British that it has to carry on its business in Paris—offers to conduct flutters for "ladies and gentlemen who are unable to spare the time and outlay necessary to visit Monte Carlo." The four sheets of printed matter which the syndicate sends out tell us much, but omit to give the name of a single living soul connected with it. The strictest anonymity is reserved throughout, but criticism is superfluous, seeing that the circular ends with the following question and answer:—Q.: "If every 1s. can produce over £2,000, and you had tens of thousands of shillings sent you for play, how could you pay it out of a capital of only £150,000?" A.: "We don't—Monte Carlo does, for we win it by play at the tables."

Scottish Metropolitan Assurance Company.

Apropos of an answer to a correspondent which appeared in a recent issue, we learn that the company has now discontinued altogether doing business on the old system—namely, "bonuses payable when the premiums, accumulated at 4 per cent. compound interest, amount to the sum assured." We are glad to know this, and have been favoured with the Company's recently issued prospectus, with which we are favourably impressed. Attention is properly called to the fact that in addition to the funds of the life department, the life policy-holders have also a claim on the uncalled capital of £70,000, and having regard to the fact that the shares of this Company are now vested in the London and Lancashire Life and General Assurance Association, Ltd., of London, whose assets amount to nearly £3,000,000, this uncalled capital represents an additional tangible security for the protection of the policy-holders.

Daniel Tallerman Again.

A circular issued by this irrespressible "Food Reformer" informs a palpitating nation that he is a K.F.J. (whatever that may mean) and an "Expert in Food Distribution." We learn from his "Record of a Commercial Life" that he was born in London in 1832, and that he was commended by a jury in 1851. We fail to find, however, that under date 1912, he records the fact that Mr. Paul Taylor, at Marylebone, fined him and five of his companies for various offences under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1893, remarking that in his opinion "the facts disclosed lent some probability to the supposition that Tallerman's conduct had been irregular throughout, and irregular with a purpose." Furthermore, no reference is made to the grave charges formulated against him by the committee which investigated his little enterprises. And, lastly, we do not find under the date 1913 any mention of the fact that his solicitors threatened some time since, but have omitted, to serve us with a writ for libel on his behalf. But we do find that he takes credit for having, in 1909, "formulated the utilisation of dormant millions." We quite believe that!

The State and Death Benefit

There is a steadily growing opinion that, notwithstanding denials to the contrary, a Death Benefit must, sooner or later, be added to the scheme of National Health Insurance. What effect this may have on the fortunes of Industrial Life Assurance Companies it is difficult, at the moment, to say, but the outlook from their standpoint is not encouraging, and we should recommend all young offices, endeavouring to build up "weekly debit," to make haste slowly. In any event, Industrial Life Assurance, as at present carried on, is a wasteful and unjust system, depriving poor people, who are unable to continue their weekly payments, of their hard-earned savings, which become "forfeited" to the companies by reason of the lapsing of policies. The moneys confiscated by the Industrial Assurance Companies and Friendly Collecting Societies in past years under the head of lapsed policies would, if the figures were made known, "stagger humanity." But the day is rapidly approaching when it will be more difficult for these confiscations, which already amount to a stupendous figure, to continue.

"Lumbering" the British Investor.

The Canadian Industries and Securities, of Empire House, 176, Piccadilly, have addressed one of our readers whose name happened to be published as a prize-winner in the newspapers, enclosing copy of what is supposed to be a prospectus of the International Land and Lumber Co., Ltd., an Ontario concern, with its head office, directors, and officers in Ottawa. The Canadian Industries and Securities draw attention to that "prospectus," and recommend shares in the lumber company at a premium of 5 dollars. Realising, no doubt, that those who are likely to respond to the offer must belong to the uneducated class, the circular explains that one share with premium will cost "£21 12s., two shares £43 4s., five shares £108, ten shares £216, and larger amounts multiples of above." The "prospectus" also does another bit of clever arithmetic. It tells us that "if the company takes out three to four million cords of pulp and sells it at two dollars a cord, the profit would be between six and eight million dollars." If something else happens, a profit of from 15 to 24 million dollars is to result, and in a further event 50 million dollars profit. All this is very wonderful indeed, but more wonderful still is the statement that the original incorporators of the company were two solicitors, two accountants, and an agent, each of whom subscribed for one share. We then read that the directors' qualification is the holding of at least ten shares of the company's stock, but it appears that the incorporators did not feel justified in increasing their holdings to that extent, for their names are not amongst those of the directors; but two members of the board are president and vice-president respectively, and another is secretary, of the vendor company, which received a cool quarter of a million cash and nearly one-half of the ordinary shares in the concern; yet the "prospectus" alleges that the directors are not interested in the promotion of, or in the property proposed to be acquired by, the company! The whole thing strikes us as an attempt to "land" the British investor by "lumbering" him into an enterprise which, not being good enough for people on the spot, is driven to tout for shareholders amongst people over here whose names and addresses are taken from the list of prize-winners appearing in the newspapers.

"Bullets" Booming! Prizes AGAIN Increased this week.

: : Oil Within the Empire. : :

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

CONCERNING

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.

A SHARE POSSESSING ENORMOUS POTENTIALITIES.

Highly important news is just to hand from Johannesburg to the effect that the South African Government, having regard to the active interest shown by the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Limited, in developing the Oil potentialitics of the Ceres district, have decided to set aside a fund for the systematic investigation of properties upon which specific Oil indications are reported.

* * * * * *

Mr. E. H. Cunningham Craig, the British Government Oil Expert, has been commissioned by the South African Government to make a thorough inspection of reputed Oil-bearing districts in the Union, and he is now in South Africa for that purpose.

* * * * * *

As already stated in this page, Mr. J. E. MILLS-DAVIES, one of South Africa's leading geologists and mining engineers, has recently returned from an inspection of the properties in the Ceres district, Cape Province, controlled by the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Ltd., and has reported most favourably regarding the Oil prospects.

* * * * * *

Mr. MILLS-DAVIES has just returned from a second visit to the properties, in company with a representative of the well-known engineering firm of Messrs. Fraser and Chalmers, of London and Johannesburg, and has arranged, with that firm, for boring operations to be immediately commenced under his personal supervision.

* * * * * *

Although the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa has provided for ample capital, it is evident from the active interest in the Oil potentialities of South Africa now being taken by the South African Government, that the operations of this important pioneer Company would not be allowed to cease through lack of financial support, a successful issue being of vital interest to the Empire.

* * * * * *

The capital of the Company is £250,000, including £50,000 working capital.

* * * * * *

The Company is a parent undertaking, its policy being to dispose of Oil rights, over given areas, to subsidiary Companies, retaining a substantial interest in them.

* * * * * *

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority its £1 shares may easily attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone.

* * * * * *

Investors and others interested will be supplied with full particulars on application.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION SYNDICATE, LTD.
80, Coleman Street, London, E.C.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

OIL PURCHASE.—E. H. (Bradford).—As a speculation we know of nothing better than the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, which we should prefer to the other concern you mention.

4½ TO 5 PER CENT. INVESTMENTS.—ITALIA.—The following selection of securities should suit you:—Great Central Railway 1881 5 per cent. Preference, at 105; Grand Trunk Railway Guaranteed 4 per cent. stock, at 86; Central Argentine Railway 4½ per cent. Preference, at 98; Associated Portland Cement First Mortgage 4½ per cent. Debentures, at 94; Peruvian Corporation 6 per cent. Debentures, at 104; Vickers 5 per cent. Third Debentures, at 101; and Royal Mail Steam Packet 5 per cent. Debentures, at 104.

INDUSTRIAL PREFS.—W. Z. (Plymouth).—These shares now stand at only about 5s. apiece, and you had better clear out. Apparently the Company has got into financial difficulties.

YOULTON'S ONYX PROCESS.—F. F. P. (Brighton).—This is quite an obscure concern. There is no market in the shares, and you will find it very difficult to get rid of them.

COPPER COMPANY.—STILL SMILING.—General market conditions have been against this Company, in common with all other copper-mining companies. No option but to hold.

BREWERY SHARES.—J. D. (Birmingham).—Take your profit, and be thankful that you can get one, which is not the experience of most brewery shareholders of late years.

COTTON BROKER.—A CONSTANT READER (Hull).—This does not come within our province. Why not write to one of the Liverpool or Manchester papers?

ADDRESSES.—M. A. (Coatbridge).—Tampico-Panuco, 133, Salisbury House, London, E.C.; Singapore Para, 39, Mincing Lane; Galang Besar, 5, Whittington Avenue; Sengat, 24, Rood Lane, London, E.C.

PREMIUM BONDS.—S. G. M. (Swansea).—We should prefer to advise you to do your business through Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., 10, Rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris.

PETROL COMBINE.—ALIMENTAIRE.—We cannot trace a special settlement having yet been granted in these shares. In any case, they are not quoted in the Official List, or anywhere else, and your only way to dispose of them is to advertise. If you can sell, you should do so.

LIPTON'S, LTD.—F. E. (Putney).—A fair industrial.

UNITED MALAYSIAN.—D. J. V. (Catford).—This rubber Company has had a very chequered career, and the £1 shares stand at only 1s. 9d. It has never paid a dividend. It is, however, hardly worth while selling at the present very low figure.

OUTSIDE CONCERN.—W. J. H. (Scarborough).—This is a concern of dubious reputation.

JAPANESE BONDS.—ANXIOUS (Leicester).—Japanese finances are rather under a cloud just now, while the loans have also been turned out from the Continent to make room for other securities. After the heavy fall it would not be advisable to sell. There is no suggestion of default on the Japanese National Loans, and, with the turn of the half-year, a recovery in quotations is probable.

MULTI-COLOUR SIGN CO.—Mrs. P. F. (Clerkenwell). We have made enquiries, but are unable to obtain any information in regard to this concern.

COCOA SHARES.—W. Z. (Plymouth).—These Preference shares are quoted at only 3/16 to 7/16, and you could only get the lower of these two prices if you decide to sell.——PLUTO.—See above.

CINEMA INVESTMENTS.—L. N. (Larbert).—This is not the sort of investment we should care to advise, and it is very far from being a safe one. You can do better with your money in well-established Industrial securities, Lyons, for instance.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NOVELTY.—BULLITE (Peckham).—Quite a speculation, but it certainly has attractive points.

ARGENTINE CO.—A. B. (Kirkcaldy).—The recent litigation certainly lends colour to your belief, and, moreover, the English-owned concerns are now feeling the effects of the American Trust competition with increased severity. In these circumstances this is not the sort of investment we should recommend—even as a speculation.

MANCHESTER CONCERN.—E. A. P.—Little or nothing is known here with regard to this concern, but we are certainly not enamoured of it.

KENT COAL.—K. C. C. (Sevenoaks).—We agree. The coal is there all right, and shareholders should be most hopeful of results; but we do not like the present administration of some of the companies. Buy South Eastern stock in preference, for the railway should make enormous profits from transporting the coal if the companies succeed; if they fail, at any rate the ordinary passenger and goods traffic of the line would remain.

PURCHASE OF HOUSE.—J. D. (Cardiff).—Enterprising builders often are willing to give facilities to a tenant to purchase a house by applying the rent payment towards this object, and Building Societies adopt a similar procedure in respect of a house in possession, but they usually require a portion of the purchase money down, say, 50 per cent.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ASSURANCE CO.—W. L. (Liverpool).—We do not think you could establish a claim against the Company in connection with the purchase of the book. You had better study carefully the terms and conditions of your agreement, and if you are still in doubt after doing so communicate with us again, or write the manager at the Head Office.

SCOTTISH LEGAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—M. B. (Edinburgh).—It is not an unusual experience that premium payments exceed the amount receivable under a policy. On the other hand, early claims arise which involve an office in loss. You could not claim a return of the money paid, and, as you inform us that an additional £2 bonus and interest will be added, you had better accept the free policy offered.

INSURANCE BOOK.—VULCAN.—We consider that you are being treated in a very unfair and arbitrary manner. Whether or not your employers can legally uphold the position they have assumed depends upon what agreement is in existence. We are always advising against the purchase of Industrial Assurance debits, but you should not surrender acquired rights unless you are obliged to do so, and without knowing whether you can obtain redress. You have not mentioned the name of the Company, so we are unable to give it the publicity it deserves.

ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INSURANCE.—LORTEP.—There would appear to be a close connection between the Century Investment Company, Ltd., of 13, Finsbury Square, E.C., and the Royal London. The former seems to exist for the purpose of lending money at a high rate of interest to purchasers of Royal London books. In our opinion the entire system demands searching investigation. We are of opinion that the trafficking in the buying and selling of books should be discontinued and made illegal by Act of Parliament. The "Century" apparently have charged you one year's interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum in advance, and you contend that you are only liable for interest to March 6, the day you had an interview with the directors, when they advised you to get your son to send in his resignation, which he did. You now learn that the book is not yet sold. You have clearly acted upon instructions, and they must not retain the book and at the same time expect you to continue liable to the Century Investment Company. The "Century" may say, however, that they have nothing whatever to do with your negotiations with the Royal London. We think, in all the circumstances, you had better await the instructions of the Royal London management and what they suggest you should do.

CO-OPERATIVE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.—E. C. (Clapton).—The cash in hand being smaller than the amount of the loan does not necessarily imply that the Society is in a weak financial position. You must have regard to the entire assets as compared with liabilities. If you contemplate making a change we should recommend you to obtain the prospectus and terms of the National Freehold Land Society, Moorgate Street, E.C.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—R. B. (Birmingham).—We fail to discover any tangible ground for complaint. The issuing of examples showing that in a combined life assurance and house purchase policy the rent should cover premium and interest can in no way be construed as forming part of the contract. We think you would be well advised to keep the assurance going. The protection it affords is always valuable, and if at any time you should care to invest in property you could doubtless arrange to convert the present policy into a mortgage redemption assurance, thereby selecting the term that would best suit your convenience for repayment. Under this scheme the loan and assurance premiums are automatically decreased, the assurance being maintained at a figure to insure the discharge of the outstanding mortgage debt in the event of death before the period of repayment expires.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO. OF CANADA.—SCISSORS AND ANNUITY.—You will be quite safe in purchasing an annuity from this Company.

INDUSTRIAL INDEMNITY CORPORATION.—J. B.—We have no particulars scheduled in respect of this concern, either "for or against," and did not know of its existence until we received your letter. We note your complaint that there is £2 due to you and that you are unable to obtain any acknowledgment from them or the return of your policy, which was posted for alteration. Perhaps the secretary will inform us of the position in which the Corporation stands, or, better still, send us the last issued report and balance-sheet, and further explain the reason why your request for information is not attended to.

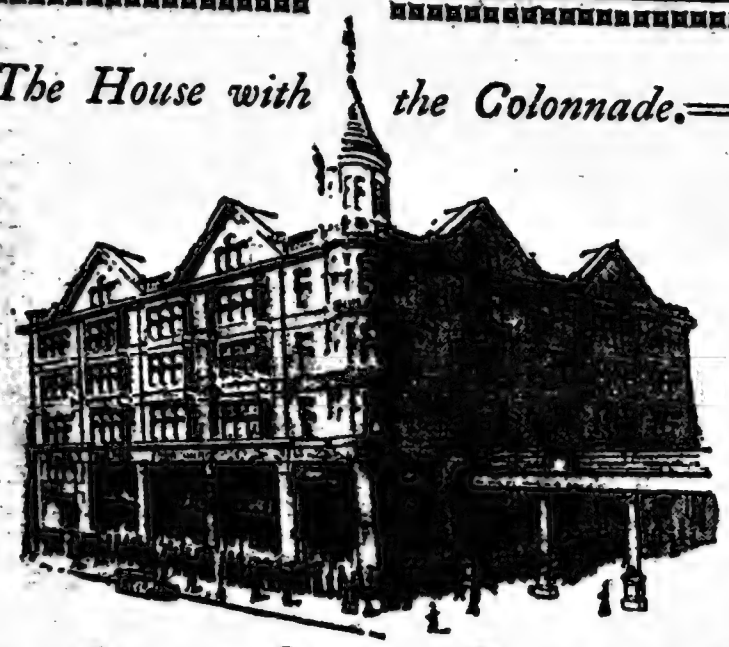
NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO.—P. W. (London).—The gist of your complaint appears to be that in 1906, having enquired at the London office to ascertain what sum you might expect to receive at the maturity of your 15-year Guaranteed 4 per cent. Bond, you were informed that "on the basis of present settlements," the total cash value would be about £1,300. Relying upon this figure being realised, you disposed of your interest in the policy for that amount in connection with the conversion of your business. You are now disappointed, because the then value "on the basis of present settlements" has not been reached, the surplus apportioned to your policy being £208 11s. 2d., which, together with the sum assured, £1,000, brings the policy's total cash surrender value to £1,208 11s. 2d. We have frequently expressed disapproval of estimates which have not been realised in actual practice, but inasmuch as the anticipated results are in the nature of "estimates" only, and not guaranteed, policyholders have no option but to accept the actual experience of the Company and abide by their decision, that "the dividend apportioned to your policy is the full amount apportioned to it by the board of trustees, and no increase in the amount can be made under the law of the State of New York."

INSURANCE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the enormous number of enquiries we receive on Insurance matters, our readers will appreciate the difficulty which confronts us in giving prompt replies. Indeed, the congestion has become so great that we have decided to depart from the rule we have hitherto observed of replying only through this column, and to answer by post. Correspondents, therefore, who fail to find replies to their enquiries on this page may expect to hear from us by letter with as little delay as possible.

Your Last Chance to Win our £1,000 Cricket Prize. Final Coupon.

The House with the Colonnade.



10 % additional discount for Cash.

No added interest for Credit.

London's Leading Furnishers.

The "Midland" Ideal. Every piece of "Midland" Furniture is an expression of the ideal that has gained for us an unrivalled reputation as "London's Leading Furnishers." So much of our success depends upon the perfect satisfaction of every customer that we cannot afford to offer anything but the best value that money can buy. Our splendidly equipped Showrooms include a series of handsomely furnished model flats, well worth a special visit.

Ideal Payment System.
Under our Ideal Payment System you pay only the plainly marked prices on the goods. No deposit is asked, no interest or additional charges made.

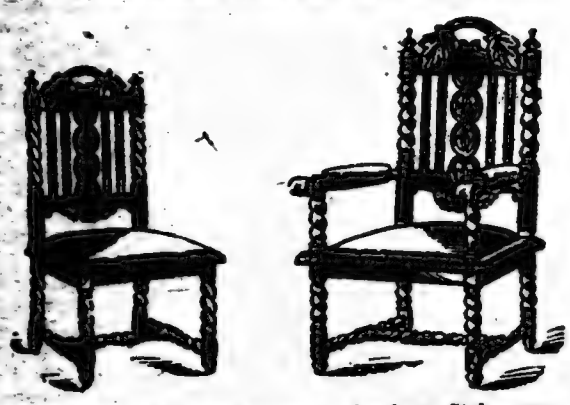
Terms.

Worth.	Per Month.	Worth.	Per Month.
£10 ...	£0 6 0	£50 ...	£1 8 0
£20 ...	0 11 0	£100 ...	2 5 0
£30 ...	0 17 0	£200 ...	4 10 0
£40 ...	1 5 0	£500 ...	11 5 0

Larger amounts pro rata.

Second-hand Department.
Our Second-hand Department alone contains over £10,000 worth of Furniture. Send for special weekly Second-hand Catalogue.

Railway Fares Paid.
Country Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.



Handsome Oak Dining Suite, in Jacobean Style, consisting of six Chairs and two Carvers, polished a rich antique brown, covered with Rexine.
Price £7 17 6 the set of eight.

The "Merlin."
Exceptionally handsome sideboard on Jacobean lines constructed of solid oak enriched with carving. There are 3 drawers and 2 cupboards. Finished a rich antique brown, and fitted with antique pattern drop handles. 5 ft. wide, 6 ft. 6 in. high. **Price £14 14 0**

A Complete Furnishing Guide.
We have prepared a very elaborate complete Guide to the furnishing of the House, containing hundreds of illustrations and several coloured plates. A copy will be sent you post free on request.

Midland
Furnishing Company, Ltd.,
15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Hours—9 till 8. Sats.—9 till 1.

"BULLETS" PRIZES AGAIN INCREASED!

This week we are again increasing our "Bullets" Prizes. In addition to our Premier Prize of £500, and 20 HOLIDAY PRIZES of £5 each, we are adding 50 Prizes of 10s. each to our exceptionally attractive prize list.

Second Prize £50

FIRST PRIZE £500

Third Prize £25

TWENTY HOLIDAY PRIZES OF £5 EACH.

50 CASH PRIZES OF 10s. EACH. 100 CASH PRIZES OF 5s. EACH.

4,000 HANDSOME PRIZES VALUE £900

AND 1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

OFTEN MAKES TROUBLE	ALWAYS TALKING	HOME TRUTHS	SEA GULLS	SETTLING DAY
WANTED FOR HOLIDAYS	TEASING	IRRESISTIBLE	A SCREW LOOSE	FAVOURED FEW
MAKING LOVE	THE EDITOR	NO SMOKING ALLOWED	NEW BARMAID	SMILING FACES
WELCOME PROPOSAL	HOME RAILS	SOFTLY STEALING	A WELCOME GIFT	VERY SMALL
LANDLADY'S EXTRAS	A HEAVY SWELL	IN THE GARDEN	LONG STOP	DRAWING STUMPS
AT WORK AGAIN	SCARBOROUGH	SUDDEN SQUALLS	ASK ME ANOTHER	LATEST ARRIVAL
ANXIOUS MOMENT	DRESS REHEARSAL	OUT OF BOUNDS	GRAND STAND	OUT OF FORM
ON THE NOD	ONCE A WEEK	SNUBBED	FRIENDS IN NEED	INTERESTING TOPIC

This week's offer is undoubtedly the most attractive ever made by any periodical. We are increasing our record prize-list by the offer of 50 prizes of 10s. each.

"Bullets" is the ONLY Competition in which EVERY Coupon received is judged by TWO DIFFERENT ADJUDICATORS.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example, "SMILING FACES," and take the letters "S" and "F," using the word "when" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "SEEN WHEN FESTIVE." Or from the example, "A WELCOME GIFT," the Bullet "CASH ALWAYS." Again, if you take the example, "OFTEN MAKES TROUBLE," using the letter "M" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "MEETING WIFE MONEYLESS."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, June 25th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(38) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 919, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated June 28th.

Closing date, Wednesday June 25th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(38) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 919, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 38," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been selected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit for the cash prizes. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudicating staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered, by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

The Result of the above Competition will appear in our issue dated July 12th.

RESULT OF 35TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

MR. A. GEORGE ELLAMS,
76, Lee Street, Hull.

Example.—SHORT OF CASH,
Bullet.—STUDYING EMPLOYER'S SIGNATURE.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

MR. F. J. WILKES,
6, Wilmot Place,
Camden Road, London, N.W.

Example.—DRAPERS' SHOPS.
Bullet.—AFTER FIRE—EMPORIUMS.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

MRS. E. RICHMOND,
56, Rossall Road, Leeds.

Example.—A FINE SUMMER.
Bullet.—FLO'S HOSE SHOWS.

20 SPECIAL HOLIDAY PRIZES of £5 Each to:—

Mr. R. MINTER, 120, Addison Gardens, W.: A SOFT JOB—BERNARD SHAW'S TRUMPETER.
Mr JOHN ANDREWS, 6, Leinster Road, Rathmines, Dublin: LUGGAGE IN ADVANCE—"CRASH" ON DELIVERY.
Mr. GEO. H. GLOVER, 15, Turkey Hill, Pudsey, Yorks: THE DERBY—"BOSS" MEETS "BEDRIDDEN."
Mr. A. S. BARNES, 67, Forest Road, Walthamstow: DISTANT RELATIONS—THRIFT AND SPENDTHRIFT.
Mr. R. W. METCALFE, 9, Oxford Terrace, Harrogate: STILL RUNNING—GIRLS—FROM SERVICE.
Mr. C. W. NESBIT, 54, Everton Road, Sheffield: FORGIVE AND FORGET—THEN CURTAIN FALLS.
Mrs. L. TAYLOR, 6, Star Street, Edgware Road, W.: BY THE SEA—TOWN BURGLAR'S HARVEST.
Mr. EVAN L. REES, 63, William Street, Ystrad Rhondda, Glam.: BY THE SEA—SMOKING AND "SOAKING."
Mr. G. COLGROVE, 8, Argyll Place, Regent Street, W.: BAD MONEY—EXCHANGE AND—DART.
Mr. PETER BROWNLEE, Hopetoun Terrace, Boness, N.B.: SHORT OF CASH—CURE—SUCCESSFUL "FAILURE."
Mrs. AMY SINGLETON, 17, Fountain Street, Park Lane, Leeds: HOLY ORDERS—RULE MANY ELECTIONS.
Mr. F. L. FAWCETT, 157, Machon Bank, Sheffield: LADIES ONLY—DISCOVER CURATE'S ABILITY.
Mr. A. W. FLINT, 75, Rolt Street, Deptford, S.E.: NODDING ACQUAINTANCES—DIRT, DISEASE, DEATH.
Mr. W. HARGREAVES, Towneley Colliery Offices, Burnley: RED LETTER DAY—LADDIE MADE DADDY.
Mr. A. W. W. GRAY, Parrs Bank House, Birkdale, Southport: SHORT OF CASH—HOLIDAY COMPANION—ORGAN.
Mr. J. H. BROWN, Red House Farm, Haughley, Suffolk: INSIDE INFORMATION—SEEKS CUSTOMS' OFFICER.
Mr. ALFRED JONES, Potatoe Salesman, Boro' Market S.E.: BAD MONEY—DETECTED—"CHANGE" ASSURED.
Mr. A. J. BORER, 27, St. John's Mansions, Clapton Square, N.E.: SHORT OF CASH—ASPARAGUS? NO: CABBAGE.
Mr. D. C. BRISTOW, 4, Canonbury Square, N.: SHORT OF CASH—HATBAND FOR TIE.
Mr. A. JAQUES, 59, Seymour Avenue, Plymouth: BY THE SEA "—" BENNY-FITTED" AND "ANNIE-MATED."

"CONTINUOUS MERIT" PRIZES.

The following "Continuous Merit" prizes of £2 : 2 : 0 each are awarded this week.

BALL, D., Miss, 76, Alfred Road, Clive Vale, Hastings.
BOWMAN, E., 79, Tollington Road, Holloway, N.
COLLINS, S. M., 43, Lapwing Lane, West Didsbury, Manchester.
JONES, C. H., Parkwern, Pembroke Road, Sevenoaks.
KINCAID, H., 44, Newark Street, Greenock, N.B.
KIRKNESS, R., "St. Agnes," Jemmett Road, Ashford, Kent
RANKIN, A., 96, Berw Road, Pontypridd.
REDON, B. E., Mrs., 185, Queen's Road, Peckham, S.E.
SMALE, F. C., Vailima, Torquay.
THOMPSON, A., 7, Barkly Grove, Beeston, Leeds.
TUITE, J., Miss, 7, Talbot Road, Highgate, N.
WHITE, M. E., Mrs., 4, Hatherley Road, Nancieville, Winchester

LIST OF 100 5s. PRIZE-WINNERS. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 35.

Adams, Mrs. R., 135, Leighton-rd., West Ealing, W.
Allen, E., 74, Green-lane, Halifax, Yorks.
Anderson, R. J., 27, Meadowbank-cres., Edinburgh.
Atherton, H., 42, Darnley-st., Brooks's Bar, Manchester.
Baker, R. W., Barleythorpe, Oakham.
Bancroft, J., 5, Portland-pl., Keighley, Yorks.
Beaney, A., 62, Cornwall Cottages, Popham-st., Essex-rd., N.
Benbow, A., 183, Green-st., Forest Gate, E.
Becknall, A. J., 17, Cromer-rd., Eastville, Bristol.
Burge, Edith M., 12, East-st., Plymouth.
Burnett, R., 2, Orchard-lane, Aberdeen, N.B.
Bursnell, Mrs. A., 83, Clifford-gdns., Willesden, N.W.
Bush, A. T., Tracey House, Lime Tree-rd., Plymouth.
Booth, A. T., 510, Aylestone-rd., Leicester
Carter, J. A., 162, Altmore-av., East Ham, E.
Clark, F. G., 11, Regent-st., Oxford.
Cole, W. H., 93, Mare-st., Hackney.
Coombs, C., 15, Tilmore-rd., Petersfield, Hants.
Coombs, Mary E., 8, Haydock-rd., Liscard, Ches.
Cooper, J. H., Melrose Cottage, Bridgnorth, Salop.
Cowap, A., 16, St. John's-rd., Waterloo, Liverpool.
Critchley, Mrs. L., The Daisy, 67, Albion-st., Brierley Hill, Staffs.
Cumming, A. L., Luath Cottage, Killarchan, Renfrewshire.
Chapman, G., 41, Sydenham-rd. North, Croydon.
Charles, C. J., Vulcan Engine Works, Paisley, N.B.
Collins, W., care of Dr. O. Farrell, 34, Holyhead-rd., Coventry.
Dale, P. H., 2, Dorset Cottages, Sun-lane, Gravesend, Kent.
Dean, W. E., 6, Church-st., Luton.
Douglas, R. M., Duncliffe, Stranraer, N.B.
Dring, C. W., 37, Oxford-rd., Ipswich.
Earwicker, Mrs. Ada, 80, Brighton-rd., South Croydon.
Fisher, T. W., St. Albans, Barton-rd., Branksome, Bournemouth.
Fisher, J., 37, Wharf-rd., Notting Hill, W.
Fitter, H. R., 11, Aston-rd., Southsea.
Flatman, W. J., 41, Farnham-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.
Foden, J., 8, Newlands-rd., Norbury, S.W.
Fitzclarke, J. M., The Cottage, Broom-rd., Rotherham.
Glover, T., South-rd. School, Poole, Dorset.
Glynn, Miss B., 1sa, Glenfield-rd, Balham.
Goodman, P., 48, Stanhope-gdns., Kensington, W.
Goodman, D., 54, West End-lane, N.W.
Grant, Miss C., 38, Fern-st., Devons-rd., Bow, E.
Green, E. W., 145, Lutterworth-rd., Northampton.
Gulston, R. C., 17, Ava-av., Ormean-rd., Belfast.
Grunt, R. W., 11, Evershot-rd., Finsbury Park, N
Hackman, L., 20, Copeland-rd., Walthamstow, N.E.
Hackett, F., 96, Abbey-rd., Smethwick.
Handley, W., Royal Hippodrome, Belfast.
Hepp, T., 10 (?), Warkworth-st., Cambs.
Hill, B. G., New Theatre, Northampton.
Hinton, W., Scotforth, Lancaster.
Hobbs, Lena, 61, Waller-rd., New Cross.
Hood, F., Commercial Union, Prince of Wales-rd., Norwich.
Hornby, F., 7, Gee-st., Hull.
Houlston, F., Post Office, Tyldesley, Manchester.
Jewell, A., 115, Harriett-st., Cathays, Cardiff.
Johnson, C., 23, Bolan-st., Battersea Park, Battersea, S.W.
Johnson, W., 112, Chapel-row, Middle Rainton, Durham.
Kerr, A. M., 2, Pendennis Villas, Streatham.
King, G. H. J., 99, Grange-av., Reading.
Langdon, G., care of Peebles, 30, Cross-st., Manchester.
Ling, T. D., 5, Stella-rd., Tooting, S.W.
Lea, H., 529, High-rd., Chiswick, W.
Lowden, G., 235, Waterloo-rd., Burslem, Staffs.
Manning, A.S., 93, Pendle-rd., Streatham, S.W.
Marywcathers, Edith, 47, Salisbury-st., Bedford.
Melson, V., 39, Horsell-rd., Drayton Park, N.
Mighell, E., Thornbury, Sutton, Surrey.
Palmer, W. W., 53, Highgate Hill, N.
Parker, C. H., The Motor Club, Coventry-st., W.
Parker, G., 20, Laird-st., Greenock.
Perry, A., 123, Sovereign-rd., Earlsdon, Coventry.
Petrie, J. H., 25, Broadstone Park, Inverness, N.B.
Phillips, Miss M., 12, Norris-rd., Reading.
Phillips, G., 30 (?), Tavistock-ter., Upper Holloway, N.
Pullin, C. J., junr., Eaglehurst, Hatfield-rd., Torquay.
Rea, M. E., 52, Burnbury-rd., Balham,
Regan, J., 10 (?), Selwyn-rd., Upton Manor, West Ham, E.
Reilly, T. E., 112, Clifford-gdns., Willesden,
Rice, A. G., 152, Green Lanes, Stoke Newington, N.
Roberts, Mrs. J., Arvon View, Llanwrst, North Wales.
Roberts, W. E., 30, Peterborough-rd., Wavertree, Liverpool.
Rowlands, Annie, 350, Regent-rd., Salford.
Shaw, Miss E., 8, Buckrose-st., Hillhouse, Huddersfield.
Shervin, J., 62, Gainsboro'-grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Shipham, C., 58, Churchgate, Stockport.
Swailes, Mrs. H., 3, Club-lane, Blackwater, Hants.
Slocombe, A. E., 6, Gloucester-ter., Swindon.
Tatum, G. E., 9, Bevois Valley-rd., Southampton.
Thomson, R. C., 14, St. Magnus-st., Lerwick, N.B.
Turner, P., 5, Blenheim-sq., Leeds.
Vale, Mrs., 164, Broom-rd., Teddington.
Vaughan, E. G., 18, Kay-rd., Stockwell,
Vinton, Miss E., 2, Brampton-grove, Hendon, N.W.
Waite, A. E., 69, Rosenan-rd., Battersea.
Walls, H. J., 71, Lauriston-st., Edinburgh.
Watt, J., 116, Renwick-st., Kinning Park, Glasgow.
White, R., 16, Dalberg-rd., Brixton, S.W.
Wilson, A. W., 160, Friern-rd., E. Dulwich S.E.
Wilkinson, W., 154, Southfield-lane, Horton, Bradford, Yorks.

Selection from List of 4,000 Special Prizes.

Baddeley, Chas. E., National School, Skegby, nr. Mansfield.
Bagenal, G. S., 1, Ruskin-gdns., Ealing, W
Bagshaw, A. B., 30, Essex-st., Norwich,
Bailey, Thos., Alton, Hants.
Bailey, Miss H. 407, Huddersfield-rd., Mill Brook, Stalybridge.
Bailey, Mr. H., 330, Camberwell New-rd., S.E.
Baird, James, 142, Roalea-drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow.
Bairnslather, T. H., Bishopton, Stratford-on-Avon.
Bairstow, Percy, 68, Newcastle-rd., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.
Baker, A. G., 31, St. George's-st., Canterbury.
Baker, W. A., 83, Oxford-st., Rugby.
Baker, John C., H.M.S. "Falmouth," First Fleet.
Baker, C.W., 11, Rudgrave-pl., Egremont, Cheshire
Baker, R. W., Barleythorpe, Oakham.
Baker, James, 26, Preston-st., Gorton, Manchester.
Baker, W. A., 13, Manor-rd., Chelmsford.
Baker, C. E., 5, Pearce rd., Ipswich.
Baker, Mr. B., 28, Landsdowne-rd., E. Croydon.
Baker, T. G., 1, The Groves, Yarn-rd., Stockton-on-Tees.
Baker, Mr. P. L., 66, St. Mary's-st., Edinburgh.
Baker, Arthur, 4, New-rd., Thetford, Norfolk.
Baldwin, Mrs., 7, Monk-st., Birkenhead.
Balls, Ellen W., 1, Neale-st., Ipswich.
Balfour, J. H., 177, Boness-rd., Grangemouth, N.B.
Ballatchef, A., 88, Main-st., Maryhill, Glasgow.
Ball, W., 54, Monk-st., Liverpool.
Ball, Arthur D., 131a, Gladstone-ave., Wood Green, N.
Ball, Victor, (Staff), North Surrey School, Anerley, S.E.
Balmer, Samuel, 192, Partingdon-lane, Swinton.
Balsdon, G., 87, Swansea-rd., Llanelly, S.W.
Bamford, W., 213, Hammersmith-rd., W.
Banks, Monty, Ingle Nook, Dunell-rd., St. Luke's, Jersey
Banks, Herbert, 85, Harrington-st., New Claythorpes, Lincs.
Banks, J. T., 18, Lyden-rd., Clapham, S.W.
Bannell, Mr. J., 55, Ridsdale-rd., Anerley, S.E.
Barber, Mr. G., 2, Sandy Mount-rd., Wath-on-Dearne, nr. Rotherham.
Barber, Robt., Station-rd., Hayfield, nr. Stockport.
Barber, R., 231, Bradford-rd., Batley.
Barclay, C. H., "Dilkusha," Station-rd., New Barnet.
Barker, Miss M., The Laurels, Nawton.
Barley, Edwin J., 56, London-rd., Ipswich.
Barlow, All., 1, Garden Village, Thurnscoe, nr. Rotherham.
Barlow, John, 7, Cardwell-rd, Gourock, Scotland.
Barnes, E. G., Vange Marshes, Pitsea.
Barnes, F., Royal Emporium, High-st., Chatham.
Barnes, W. H., 55, Grange-ave., North Finchley.
Barnet, Mrs., 43, Bath-st., Portobello.
Barr, Mrs. E., Seaton, St. Michael's rd., Dovercourt, Harwich.
Barradell, Mr. S., 23, Paton-st., Leicester.
Barratt, Mr. W., 35, Branstone-rd., Burton-on-Trent.
Barrett, Henry J., 125, Upper Tooting-rd., Tooting, S.W.
Barrett, J. A., Harringay, Winchester-rd., Southampton.
Barrett, W. E., S.Q.M. Sergt. (A.E.C.), The White Mansion, 91, York-pl., S.W.
Barran, A., Rose Cottage, Church Walk, Hendon, N.W.
Barron, Chas., Loke-rd., King's Lynn, Norfolk.
Barrow, Mr. A. E., 3, Ivy-st., Salisbury.
Barrow, H. S., 26, Albany-st., Balby, Doncaster.
Barry, James, Plumber, H.M.S. "Bellona," 2nd Flotilla, c.o. G.P.O.
Bartlett, Mr. A. C., 34, Bannockburn-rd., Plumstead, S.E.
Bartley, Miss A., 7, Wright-st., Bradley, nr. Bilston.
Barton, R. E., 191, Dale-st., Chatham.
Barton, John, 42, Victoria-rd., Tuebrook, Liverpool.
Baskerville, H., 2, Sydney-ave., Northallerton.
Bassford, Mr. A., 6, Radnor-pl., Plymouth.
Batchelor, B., 182, Arundel-st., Portsmouth.
Bates, Miss A., c.o. Mr. Gibson, Market Place, Chesterfield.
Bates Albert H., Steward, Unionist Club, 4, New-st., Hasley.
Bath, Rob., 390, Whitworth-rd., Rochdale.
Batting, G. F., 3, Disraeli-rd., Forest Gate, E.
Batty, Mr. Wm., Burn's Crescent, Newington, Hull.
Baugh, Arthur, 48, Rice Hey-rd., Egremont, Ches.
Baxendale, Herbert, 1, Hexham-ave., Bolton.
Baxter, Frank, Baxtergate, Pontefract.
Baxton, Mr. A. B., Bavington House, Liverpool.
Bayldon, N., Roseville, Berwick-rd., Shrewsbury.
Bayly, Mrs. E. M., Bayly Farm, Nenaugh, Ireland.
Bayett, H. Campbell, Culvert Cottage, Blundell-lane, Cobham.
Beach, Henry, Totterridge Lane, Whetstone.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*)

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 918 and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order. the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, June 25th.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Complete List of all Prize-Winners can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Prophetic.

For the Royal Hunt Cup, a strong tip is about for the Irishman, Sleipner, but if he is to win he will have to do something more than any three-year-old has yet done in this race. Adam Bede is much fancied, and there are signs that the Frenchman, Jarnac II, will be backed, but probably nothing will be found to beat

MAIDEN ERLEGH,

who is a real good colt, and with all his weight is sure to be right in the fighting line at the end. Another winner to-day (Wednesday) should be DEPECHE in the Coronation Stakes, for she meets Jest on a stone better terms than in the Oaks. FORTYFOOT should win the Visitors' Handicap.

On Thursday, LOUVOIS looks good for the St. James's Palace Stakes. As regards the Gold Cup, TRACERY is reported not to have galloped too well lately, and

PRINCE PALATINE*

represents the best thing of the week. Should THE TETRARCH be kept for the New Stakes, he is another real good thing.

On Friday, in the Wokingham Stakes,

GIANT

looks the best thing. Last year's winner, BORROW, is expected to run well also. APRILLE ought to win the High Weight Stakes; HORNET'S BEAUTY the King's Stand Stakes; and LANCELOT the Windsor Castle Stakes.

The week's sport will be brought to a conclusion at Windsor, where

ROS COMAIN

is well handicapped in the Thames Handicap. Other winners on the Clewer Meadows should be EARLY HOPE and BUTTONY BOY.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.

We are requested to express Mr. O'Brien's regret that in the great hurry of going to press with the list of prize winners several clerical errors crept in, and to intimate that any subscriber desiring a full list of prize-winners may obtain same on application to him at Geneva. All holders of winning tickets, by the way, should send in their actual tickets to Mr. O'Brien without delay, as he cannot pay to any persons other than the actual holders.

H. DIAMOND'S DERBY SWEEP.

Our representative attended at the British Consulate in Lucerne on the 9th inst., and witnessed the despatch of cheques specially drawn by Messrs. Falck and Co. on their agents for the following sums to the three principal winners in Mr. Diamond's Derby Sweep. The envelopes were sealed with the Consulate stamp, and our representative afterwards handed them in to the Post Office for registration:—(1) £1,000, first prize, Mr. R. P. Weeks, 50, Bailey Street, Brynmawr, Breconshire; (2) £200, second prize Mr. C. M. Davies, Whitby House, Priory Hill, Milford Haven; (3) £100, third prize, Mr. H. Farley, c.o. W. A. Mutlow, Box 96, P.O. Waterville, Quebec.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.—C. W. F. (Coventry) AND OTHERS.—You may certainly take it that we did "take every step to see that all tickets paid for were included in the Draw." We would remind you that Mr. O'Brien issued a notice to the effect that after a given date he could not undertake to acknowledge remittances unless they were accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

TURF POOL SYNDICATE.—By an unfortunate printer's error the number of the ticket drawing Aboyeur in this Syndicate's Derby Sweep was given as 560926 instead of 60926.

LESLIE MURRAY AND CO.'S DERBY SWEEP.—H. A. (Liverpool).—The explanation is that Aboyeur was not given as a probable runner, but we are assured that the drawer of his name is being duly recognised by the Syndicate.——T. L. Mc S. (Cambridge).—We had nothing to do with the payment of the prize money.

JAMES FERGUSON (Birsfelden).—J. A. W. (Rhyl).—We certainly do not advise you to take tickets in this man's Sweepstake on the Northumberland Plate.

GALE'S SPECIAL.—C. L. (Bristol).—The advertisement to which you refer is quite in order, and we believe the business is run on straightforward lines.——DOUBTFUL AND D. M. R. (Ilford).—See reply to "C. L. (Bristol)." We do not, however, care to undertake the responsibility of recommending any particular firm.——A. G. (Liverpool).—See above. We understand that they are in no way connected with the other firms you mention.

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success.

"Fewer Selections and more Winners than any of its rivals." *Vide The Sportsman.*

The Proof!

During the past eleven weeks GALE'S SPECIAL has given seventy-nine winners, including: TWELFTH LANCER (8 pts.), CLAQUEMENT (8 pts.), SOUR PLUM (7 pts.), KLEINFONTEIN (10 pts.), KEYHAVEN (14 pts.), SCOLTIE (7 pts.), RED GATE (7 pts.), ST. MERIADOC (12½ pts.), SVETEC (6 pts.), GREAT SURPRISE (5 pts.), AMADOR (6 pts.)

* * * **LOUVOIS (25 pts.)**

"The Admiral's" trebly-starred one-horse selection for the Two Thousand Guineas, and

* * * **LORENZO (4½ pts.)**

our sole selection for the Manchester Cup,

SHANBALLYMORE (2 pts.)

for the Great Northern Handicap.

Our "Double" for the issue, dated May 26th, 1913, was **SHANBALLYMORE (2 pts.) and SHELSWELL (3½ pts.)**

Our sole selections for the Caterham Plate and the Stewards' Handicap in "Hints to Act Upon" on Wednesday, June 4th, at the Epsom Meeting, were Honeywood (3 pts.) and St. Meriadoc (12½ pts.)

Next Monday's issue of "Gale's Special," published at 2/6, will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1/- P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "John Bull" enclosing this paragraph.

Gale's Primus Wire

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SERVICE EVER INAUGURATED.

As a proof of the reliability of these famous Primus Wire selections it may be stated that we have registered six consecutive wins, the list of horses being CARRIGRUE, MASTER MACDONALD, OCYDROME, AMBASSADOR, ARRIET, and PERSUADE, showing

More than 46 Points Clear Profit.

Never more than One Selection per week.
Never more than One Horse wired.

The following is the result of the first six wires sent out:—

PERSUADE, 10 to 1 agst.	Won.
CARRIGRUE, 10 to 1 agst.	Won.
MASTER MACDONALD, 100 to 8 agst.	Won.
ARRIET, 10 to 1 agst.	Won.
AMBASSADOR, 3 to 1 agst.	Won.
OCYDROME, 11 to 8 agst.	Won.

The Most Successful Service Inaugurated.

On Thursday, June 5th, all Subscribers received

MEDIATOR, 9 to 2 agst., Won.

Nothing else whatever mentioned.

Should the selection sent out prove unsatisfactory we definitely guarantee to send a free TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE on the next day to all subscribers.

The charge for this Special "Gale's Primus Wire" is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. It amounts to this, one selection only—the best selection that money, brains, and influence, can procure.

The next selection on this Gale's Primus Wire will be sent from the Newcastle Meeting on Wednesday, June 25th.

As a Special Offer to "John Bull" readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25,

and unless the selection sent out is successful, and at reasonable odds, we guarantee to send our next Tattersall's Ring Wire entirely free of charge. On the other hand, should the selection win, at the odds of not less than 3 to 1 against, subscribers will, of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING HAVE ALREADY WON £500 FROM US:—

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W. HARGRAVE, Royal Marine Infirmary, Deal.
J. J. RICHARDS, 9, Shannon Grove, Brixton, S.W.
A. B. WYATT, 3, Falmer Road, Enfield, Middlesex.
W. H. BLACKSHAW, The Lea, Denham, Bucks.
H. COLCHIN Junr., Woolpack Inn, Iwade, Kent.
F. SMITH, 241, High Street, Porth, Glam.
T. PHILLIPS, 34, The Park, Treharris.
W. H. COWDERY, Foresters Arms, Coxgreen, Maidenhead.
B. AINLEY, 10, Hamilton Street, Old Trafford, Manchester.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING HAVE ALREADY WON £100 FROM US:—

J. J. STEPHENSON, 42, Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees.
J. PARRISH, 165, North Road, Clayton, Manchester.
J. DIXON, 149, Albert Street, Millom, Cumberland.
C. E. PAGE, 1, Royal Villas, Maxton, Dover.
H. HACK, 30, Little Earl Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, London.
A. THOMPSON, 29, Cockspur Street, Pall Mall, London.
MRS. OLIVER, 22, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh.
BOMBARDIER COAKLEY, R.G.A., The Castle, Dover.
A. KERR, Sheephead Inn, Duddingston, Scotland.
M. BROWN, 68, Corporation Road, Workington.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING HAVE ALREADY WON £50 FROM US:—

L. NEALE, 4, Brainerd Street, Green Lane, Liverpool.
A. ELLIOTT, 139, Portman Buildings, Lisson Grove, London, N.W.
H. POWELL, 1, Reubens Place, New Denham, Uxbridge.
G. GREEN, 10, Church Street, Madeley, Salop.
B. HANCOCK, Westcombe House, Bideford, Devon.
G. SPENCER, Criterion Bar, St. Andrews, N.B.
W. TREMLETT, Whiteley's Depot, Hillingdon Heath, Uxbridge.
J. CHARNOCK, 10, Norman Road, Seacombe, Liverpool.
J. BOWNAS, Temperance Hotel, Grassington, Yorks.

The Editor of "John Bull" on February 1st stated:—
"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and aboveboard."

The "Mirror of Life" on June 7th, stated:—
"We can certify as to the equitable way in which they are carried out, and of the fairness in every particular of Mr. H. Diamond's sweepstakes."

H. DIAMOND, Lucerne, Switzerland.

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N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

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